

U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVIST



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The
Retirement
Issue



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Retirement Reprint!

I can always tell when our readers like an issue of the magazine because I will have very few, if any, copies on file. Such is the case with our last retirement issue in April/May 2000. I only have one copy on file. Since it was so popular, I figured it's time to revisit. I asked Personnel Service Center Retirement & Annuitant Services branch to review all the articles from that issue. They did so, making updates and suggestions. A huge thank you to Lynn Couch and the staff at PSC for their assistance.

Some recent retirements: CWO4 Tom McLaughlin turned RET -1 in December. CWO4 came to my commissioning ceremony in June 2002; he's always been upbeat and chipper...and he loves the Coast Guard. Don't expect Tom to disappear in retirement — he'll always be up to something supporting the Coast Guard in one way or another. After 37.5 years service, his official retirement ceremony is Saturday, May, 7, 11 a.m. at the Atlantic Strike Team, Fort Dix, N.J. MCPO Henry Mitchell retired March 7. MCPO Mitchell is famous for his Servicewide Exam study groups at HQ. CWO4 Bill Broadaway, featured on the cover of the last retirement issue in 2000, is now officially RET-2 and on the retirement list posted in this issue. Fair winds to all of them and to all recent retirees.

In addition to retirement-related info, this issue also contains lots of other good stuff. It's Coast Guard Mutual Assistance time again and the CGMA annual campaign runs throughout the month of April. You can check that out in this issue and/or check their Web site at: www.cgmahq.org/

Enjoy this issue, and please let me know what you think. Our readers are anything but shy — they always do!

-Ed.

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Send submissions to:

**COMMANDANT (G-WTR-2)
U.S. COAST GUARD
2100 SECOND STREET SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20593-0001
ATTN: EDITOR, THE RESERVIST**

**Phone: 202-267-1991
1-800-842-8740, ext. 7-1991/1024
FAX: 202-267-4325
E-mail: ekruska@comdt.uscg.mil**

**U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Web Site
www.uscg.mil/reserve**

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ADM Thomas H. Collins, USCG
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

RADM James C. Van Sice, USCG
Director of Reserve & Training

CAPT Louis M. Farrell, USCGR
Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs

LCDR Robert T. Hanley, USCGR
Chief, Reserve Communications Division
E-mail: ghanley@comdt.uscg.mil

LT Scott C. Toves, USCGR
Assistant Chief, Reserve Communications Division
E-mail: stoves@comdt.uscg.mil

LTJG Jae-Won Kwon, USCGR
Reserve Awards
E-mail: jkwon@comdt.uscg.mil

LTJG Greg Peck, USCGR
Special Projects
E-mail: gpeck@comdt.uscg.mil

ENS Thomas Grose, USCG
Staff Assistant
E-mail: tgrose@comdt.uscg.mil

CWO2 Edward J. Kruska, USCGR
Editor, The Coast Guard Reservist
E-mail: ekruska@comdt.uscg.mil

Mr. Chris S. Rose
Asst. Editor, Layout & Design
E-mail: crose@comdt.uscg.mil

BMCM Mark H. Allen, USCGR
Staff Assistant & Special Projects
E-mail: mallen@sgt-inc.com

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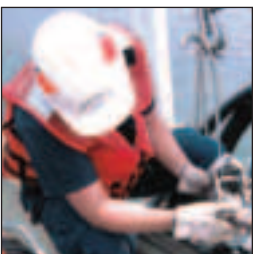
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Training Center Series

This month we take a look at the U.S. Coast Guard Special Missions Training Center at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

LETTERS

Enjoyed Inaugural Issue

I found the 55th Presidential Inaugural coverage (Vol. 52, Issue 02-05) very interesting for a couple of reasons. I will be graduating from college this summer and my wife and I are thinking about moving to the Virginia/Maryland/DC area. So, we were looking at stations around there, and Station Washington D.C. was one that we found might work best for us. Low and behold, Station Washington was pictured patrolling the nation's capital.

The second reason is that it's great to see all of the different missions the Coast Guard is involved in. So many people do not think of the Coast Guard as a branch of the military. It is great to see a story that shows the military on the front lines of defending the president on one of the most important days of a presidential term. Hopefully, someone will pick up this issue and learn something new about the Coast Guard.

I must say though, my favorite picture is the one of the Coast Guard C-130 plane delivering relief to tsunami victims. It was a great issue.

— BM3 Kyle Viele, USCGR
East Lansing, Mich.



Once selected, the mentor has to visit the companies three times. The first time is during the second week of boot camp. The second visit is during their fifth week. The last visit is at graduation time. At that point, the recruits are running the company themselves with little guidance. Still, the mentor participates in their last get together, the pizza party on Thursday night. On Friday, Graduation Day, the mentor gives a short speech and sends them off with words of wisdom on how to report to their first duty station and to keep up the good work. This was the most rewarding experience in my Coast Guard career. This experience was a flash back from the past and I could see myself back in boot camp eight years ago. At one point, a company commander was reprimanding a recruit and I got nervous and sweaty. Later on, another company commander replied, "Sir, relax; he is not

addressing you." As you can see from the photo, I thoroughly enjoyed this experience.

I didn't know the mentoring program existed until I heard about it through a friend that served as a recruit mentor. I feel that the Recruit Mentor Program is not well advertised, and should be because it's such an amazing experience. If anyone would like further info, I suggest they visit the Cape May Web site: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/capemay/mentoring.htm>

— LT Nelson Santiago
MSO Tampa, Fla.

Fitness Standards Too Low?

I enjoyed reading Vol. 51, Issue 9 article, "Focus On Fitness." However, I would say the "Standards For Coast Guard Fitness Assessment Program" are way too low. I'm pushing 70 and meet the requirements for under 20 yrs olds during my weekly workouts. I guess I'm over doing it!

— CDR Dave Hartmann, USCGR(Ret.)
Penryn, Calif.

Hurricanes: A Child's Perspective

I thought your readers would enjoy this story about Hannah Emerson, whose father, CDR Mike Emerson, was transferred to Air Station Clearwater, Fla. in June 2004, just in time for a busy rescue season. I thought a youngster's insight would brighten up our day!

Hannah looked forward to the move from Hawaii to Florida last summer...beach, sand, sun and fun. But, along came four hurricanes and numerous storms. When school started, she was welcomed by her new teacher and introduced to her new classmates. When her teacher asked if she liked Florida, she replied in the negative. When her teacher asked why not, she replied, "It always rains here and you keep getting evacuated and it still rains and you can't go out and play!"

When the teacher asked her if it rained in Hawaii, she replied, "Sure, for 20 minutes or so, but then the sun comes out and you can go out and play!"

— CWO2 Michael Emerson, USCGR
Hollywood, Md.

Coast Guard Mentoring Program

This past fall, I volunteered for the Coast Guard Recruit Mentor Program and mentored two companies, November and Oscar 169. Basically, the mentor is the "good" guy; he/she provides the recruits with encouragement to finish the program.

Doesn't Like PDF Web Format

Respectfully, I love the mag overall but hate the new PDF on-line format.... It freezes up after one page. I get as far as a few pages and bam! It stops working. I'm a faithful e-reader and get the paper one, but I bring it in to work...passive recruiting, as it were. Is there something you can do to fix the glitch?

— YN1 Amanda S. Myers
Alameda, Calif.

Ed's note: Thanks for the feedback! The first issue in PDF format (Issue 01-05) was admittedly too large. We have since had this cut back from a 65-MB file to about 2.3 MB so "freezing up" shouldn't be a problem anymore. By the way, the reason the magazine went from HTML to PDF was to save time. It used to take over a day to put the magazine on-line. Now, it's up in a matter of minutes — truly leveraging available technology. The other reason is now readers can view the magazine exactly as it appears in hard copy version. Thanks to LT Scott Toves, CG Reserve webmaster, for the idea to move to PDF.

Good Conduct Award

The question has come up regarding SELRES members on Title 10 and whether or not they are entitled to receive a Coast Guard Good Conduct Award (active duty) if on Title 10 for three consecutive years (and possibly with no more than three-month break between recalls). If a policy does exist, please forward the reference to me. Thanks.

— CWO3 George Rubesha, USCGR
CG MSO Charleston, S.C.

Ed's note: The eligibility requirements regarding the CG Good Conduct Award (active duty) for SELRES members on Title 10 states that creditable service must have been accrued while

serving on active duty in the Regular Coast Guard or Coast Guard Reserve. Service must be continuous, the required period of service is three years, and reserve time applied toward the Coast Guard Reserve Good Conduct Medal may not be applied toward a good conduct award while on active duty. As more info becomes available regarding this issue, we will pass it along. See COMDTINST M1650.25C (Coast Guard Medals & Awards Manual), Section 5-3.

Coastal Forces, 1965

The photo of the Coast Guard guys at Camp Pendleton (Issue 01-05, page 11) brought back memories of Coastal Forces there in 1965. I

suspect our guys now are in one unit for training. In 1965, the Coastal Forces Team 11 was integrated into a rifle company for training. I was the only guy in 4th platoon. My first morning I heard the words, "Hey Squid!"



Things went downhill from there. We were in actually better shape and better trained for the combat training than the Marines. The lieutenant, who ran the Coastal Program at Alameda was a former Marine, and he wanted us to shine. The degree of training in the "A" School was exceptional for the times, however.

It seems to me high time to let the new Coast Guard know what we did in the good old days. It might spark some real interest.

— PSC Mike Benjamin
Hillsboro, Ore.

Ed's note: Chief has written a story about the Coastal Forces, 1963-67. Watch for it in a future issue.

"Mother of All Keepers"

I am writing concerning The Reservist, Vol. 52, Issue 1, page 4, regarding Ida Lewis' boom inscription. It reads "Mother of all Keepers" not "Mother of all Tenders." Being she is the first of her class, we found it fitting to name her appropriately. Thank you!

— CWO3 Mark Cryslar
Commanding Officer
CGC Ida Lewis (WLM-551)

Offer Bigger Shirt Sizes?

In regards to the Coast Guard's light blue shirts (long and short sleeve), it sure would be nice if they made taller sizes available. I would surely think with all the tall members we have in the Coast Guard, I'm not the only one that has the problem of the shirt pulling out all the time.

— CWO4 Dale Hoonstra, USCGR
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Coast Guard Decals

I have always appreciated the distinctive vehicle decals of the Coast Guard, and have held the "racing stripe" logo in high esteem. I am dismayed that for retirees, such as I, who have elected to retire to parts of the United States distant from any Coast Guard operating unit, vehicle decals are almost impossible to obtain. I am near a U.S. Air Force installation, where I am relegated to having Air Force/DoD vehicle decals on

my vehicles. I queried Personnel Service Center, and was advised to obtain decals from the nearest Coast Guard facility. I contacted the nearest facility, and was advised that even their assigned personnel did not have decals.

Is it possible that a process be implemented whereby retirees can request vehicle decals, and receive them in the mail within a few days? Also, the last decals I was issued faded out, from exposure to the elements, long before the expiration date of the issuance. Is there a preservation method that can be extended the life of the decal? I have seen instances of decals being placed on a placard, and laid on the dash only when it became necessary to display it. Is this allowable?

— ETCM Earl W. Bloodworth, USCGR(Ret.)
Pikeville, Tenn.

Ed's note: Much has changed in the post-9/11 environment, including the use of Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) USCG decals. According to ALCOAST 151/04, released March 29, 2004, the Coast Guard revamped the POV registration program to increase the security and accountability of POV decals in a post-9/11 environment, provide a greater degree of positive access control to CG facilities using POV decals, and redesigned the decal to reflect the Coast Guard's transfer to the Department of Homeland Security. According to the "USCG Privately Owned Vehicle Manual" (Revised March 11, 2004), members (including retirees) requesting a Coast Guard vehicle decal must adhere to the policies set forth in COMDTINST 5530.1C, CG Physical Security Program, of Dec. 17, 2001. The manual states in Appendix B that "vehicle decals will no longer be issued through the mail." Persons desiring to register their vehicle must appear in person to a vehicle decal issuing office, Coast Guard or DoD, and must bring the proper documentation including: military ID, or government ID indicating entitlement to the decal; valid state driver's license, car registration (for each car); and insurance information/card with the expiration date, before a decal is issued. According to Mr. Dave Wilson, Security Center POC, these rules also apply to retirees. In addition, at some commands, retirees can show their ID and obtain a day pass. As far as a preservation method, the new decals are a non-fade variety so that should no longer be an issue. There are blue plastic placards being issued for the display of captains' eagles and admirals' stars. No such placard is available or planned for the stickers themselves, as it obviously would negate the intent of registering the decal to a single vehicle. Use of the placard for the actual decal is not authorized. Questions can be directed to Mr. Wilson at 757-413-7433, e-mail: dwilson@seccen.uscg.mil

"Search" Feature to CGR Web Site?

Would it be possible to add a "SEARCH" feature to the Reserve web site that would search just the Reserve site?

— BMCS Paula F. Jaklitsch, USCGR
USCG Station New York, N.Y.

Ed's note: Thanks for the idea! We are looking into this.

Corrections

The promotions listed in Vol. 52, Issue 01-05, page 28, for CWO4 should have been CWO3. This promotion error originated at Coast Guard Personnel Command and has since been corrected. • LANTAREA's nominee for the Reserve Outstanding Junior Officer, LTJG Christopher Anderson, was omitted from the list of nominees on page 14 of Vol. 52, Issue 02-05. We regret the error.

Can You Help a Fellow Coastie?



**Coast Guard
People
helping
Coast Guard
People.**

CGMA CONTRIBUTION FORM

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(PLEASE SELECT ONE)



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AMOUNT: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

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4200 WILSON BLVD,
SUITE 610
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance: A Tradition of Compassion

2005 Campaign Runs During April

By Mr. Ron Wolf, CGMA

Ed's note: It's Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) annual campaign time! RADM James Van Sice, Director of Reserve & Training, reminds everyone that letters are being sent again this year to each member of the Selected Reserve. The letters include a CGMA contribution form and postage-paid return envelope. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to CGMA. It's a proven and practical way to extend a hand of compassion to fellow Coast Guard active duty, reserve, auxiliary, civilian and retired members in time of need. The story below gives you info, statistics and examples of fellow Coast Guardsmen who were helped immensely by CGMA.

The annual CGMA fundraising campaign is set for the month of April. This is a departure from previous years when it began March 1 and ended April 30. According to CGMA President RADM Kenneth T. Venuto, changing the duration to one month is intended to encourage a greater focus on the campaign at all levels.

The campaign theme this year is "A Tradition of Compassion," reflecting that for more than 80 years, CGMA has been active in responding to the needs of individuals and families throughout the Coast Guard community. And the tradition continues. Highlights of activity in 2004 include:

- Financial assistance totaling almost \$6 million provided in approximately 7,400 cases.
- Over \$103,400 in grants and loans provided for hurricane relief.
- Supplemental Education Grants (SEG) totaling \$393,000.
- Phone cards provided to Coast Guard members deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- A new program established to provide lifetime benefit and entitlement information services to the surviving spouse and/or dependent children of Coast Guard members who die on active duty or when drilling on Reserve orders.

Your contributions to CGMA help meet the needs of thousands of people within the Coast Guard community each year. Just a few recent examples illustrate this point:

- A service member suffered extensive damage to his home during Hurricane Ivan, forcing him to find temporary quarters for his family. CGMA provided a combined grant and interest-free loan to help with expenses not covered by FEMA and other emergency agencies.
- The daughter of a reservist had an inoperable brain tumor. As medical expenses mounted, the member received some assistance from Ronald McDonald House and other sources, but was still left with debts. CGMA provided a grant to help with those debts associated with her medical treatment.
- A Coast Guard Auxiliarist was unable to work for a period of time while he cared for his wife, who was suffering from terminal cancer. CGMA provided financial assistance to help with basic living expenses until he was able to return to work.
- A civilian employee was required to have her bedroom rewired to be able to use oxygen tanks for a medical condition. CGMA provided financial assistance to help with expenses.
- A fire broke out in the house of a retired Coastie and her husband, burning it to the ground. CGMA provided an interest-free loan to help with temporary lodging and immediate necessities until the insurance company provided funds.

CGMA provided \$201,540 in interest-free loans and grants to reservists in 2004. Meanwhile, reservists contributed \$19,441 to CGMA last year.

Though CGMA works closely with the Coast Guard, it is an independent non-profit corporation and receives no appropriated or non-appropriated government funds. In order to continue performing its vital role, CGMA must rely on voluntary contributions. CGMA is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions are tax deductible.

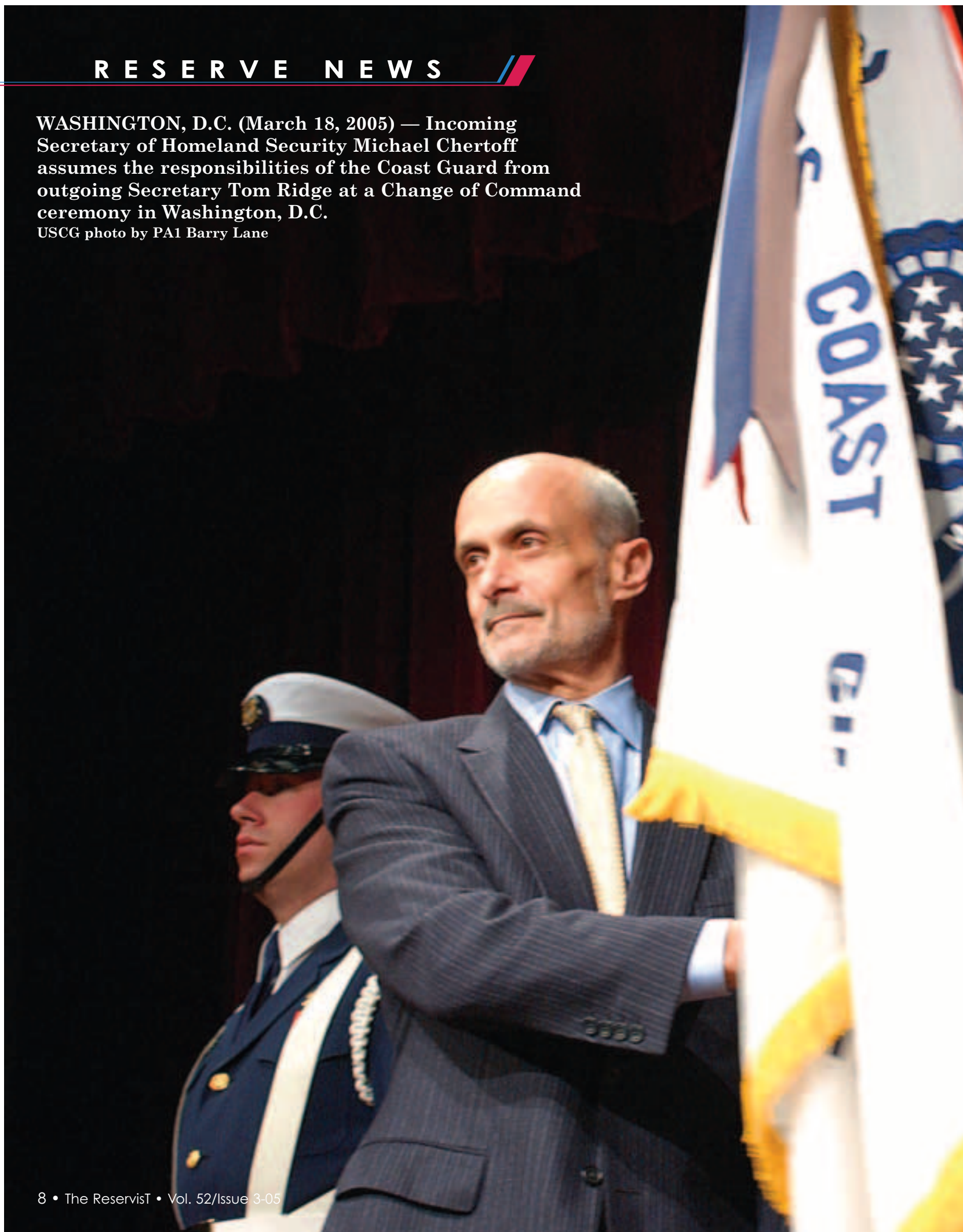
Contributions may be made using the form provided below or watch for the mailing RADM Van Sice mentioned above. Please make checks payable to CGMA and mail contributions to Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 610, Arlington, VA 22203.

For more information about Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, contact your local CGMA Representative, visit the CGMA Web site: www.cgmahq.org or call CGMA Headquarters at 800-881-2462 or 202-493-6621.

RESERVE NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 18, 2005) — Incoming Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff assumes the responsibilities of the Coast Guard from outgoing Secretary Tom Ridge at a Change of Command ceremony in Washington, D.C.

USCG photo by PA1 Barry Lane







PENSACOLA, Fla. (March 1, 2005) —
A Coast Guard response boat-small (RB-S) is held in the water at Naval Air Station Pensacola. Coast Guard teams, with assistance from the Naval Survival Training Institute, intentionally capsized the boat while conducting rollover stability and egress tests. The teams also tested new self-righting and personal protective equipment designed to keep Coast Guard boat crews safe.
USCG photo by PA2 Kyle Niemi



BELLINGHAM, Wash. (Feb. 10, 2005) — Border Patrol agents co-located with Coast Guard Station Bellingham conducted a boarding of a sailboat in Puget Sound, near the city of Bellingham. The agents have been co-located with Station Bellingham for more than a year now and work closely with Coast Guard law enforcement teams. USCG photo by PA3 Mike Zolzer





D1, ISC Boston Wins Waesche Award



Photo by LTJG Jae-Won Kwon, USCGR

The First District and ISC Boston were honored as this year's recipient of the Waesche Award at the Coast Guard reception held at ROA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Feb. 14. Left to right: CAPT Richard Tinsman, D1 Senior Reserve Officer; VADM Terry Cross, Vice Commandant; CAPT Frederick Kenney, D1; CDR Kent Bauer, ISC Boston.



Photo by PA1 Daniel L. Temper, USCG Recruiting Command

Reserve Recruiter of the Year

CAPT Bruce Viekman, CO of Coast Guard Recruiting Command, left, congratulates SCPO Steven Sennott as Reserve Recruiter of the Year at a ceremony in Arlington, Va. Feb. 18. Sennott was honored along with other top recruiters at the ceremony at CGRC.

Three Cheers for PSU 307...

PSU 307 was honored at a Pentagon ceremony Feb. 18 for winning the Reserve Affairs Family Readiness Award. Presenting the award is the Honorable Thomas Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, left, to Lynda Lipke, PSU 307 Ombudsman. Looking on are, left to right: ET1 Chris Lipke, PSU 307; CDR Jeff Bauer, Commanding Officer of PSU 307; and RADM James Van Sice, Director of Reserve & Training. Other Armed Forces Reserve component winners were also honored.



Photo courtesy Department of the Army



Photo courtesy ROA & CAPT Henry Plimack, USCGR

Outstanding Junior Officers

District nominees for the 2004 Coast Guard Reserve Outstanding Junior Officer award were honored at the Coast Guard reception Feb. 14 at ROA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Left to right: LT Kevin Tyrrell, PACAREA; LTJG Martin Schell, D13; LTJG Apryl Pidding, D11; LT Richard Lavigne, D7 and national ROJO recipient; CWO3 Mark DuPont, D1; CWO2 Quinn Quaglino, D8; CWO2 William Smith, ELC; CWO4 Dale Hoornstra, D9. Not shown LT Emanuel Terminella, Jr. D5; LT Douglas Crabbe, D14; CWO Norman Chapman, D17; LTJG Christopher Anderson, LANTAREA.

Serpens 60th anniversary wreathlaying held at Arlington

ARLINGTON, Va. — A solemn ceremony and wreathlaying at Arlington National Cemetery commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Coast Guard's largest single disaster in World War II.

The ceremony, sponsored by DC CPOA, was held Jan. 29 at the *USS Serpens* monument in the cemetery's Section 34. The monument marks the collective grave of 193 Coast Guardsmen, 56 Army personnel and one Public Health Service physician reinterred here from Guadalcanal June 15, 1949. The *Serpens* exploded mysteriously Jan. 29, 1945, leaving only two survivors.

Event emcee was CDR Charles E. Polk, III, USCGR, of Little Rock, Ark. while keynote speaker was CAPT Frank Buckley, USCGR(Ret.). The Coast Guard Honor Guard provided the colors and rifle squad, while Mr. Paul Defenbaugh of the Coast Guard Auxiliary played "Taps." CDR Kalas McAlexander, Chaplain of Coast Guard Headquarters, gave the invocation and benediction. A group of Navy League Cadets and U.S. Naval Sea Cadets from the D.C. area also attended and helped with ceremonial logistics.

Placing four wreaths around the octagon-shaped *Serpens* monument were CSM Jeff Greer and Mrs. Jean Lockerby (Army), Coast Guard SPAR and World War II veteran CWO4 Betty Splaine and CDR Laura Rabb (Public Health Service), Coast Guard SPAR and World War II veteran Mrs. Lorraine



Mr. Kelsie Kemp, one of two survivors from the *USS Serpens* explosion, places a wreath with MCPO Jeff Smith, Master Chief of the Coast Guard Reserve Force.

Dieterle and MCPO Frank Tatu (Coast Guard). *Serpens* survivor Mr. Kelsie Kemp and MCPO Jeff Smith, Master Chief of the Coast Guard Reserve Force, placed a larger wreath. The wreaths were donated by MCPO Linda Reid and by LCDR Kofi Aboagye and family.

"There are few occasions that prove the inadequacy of words more than a solemn ceremony such as today's," said keynote speaker Buckley. "...we are challenged to express our appreciation and our profound sense of loss at this simple yet poignant granite memorial in front of us. Yes, we are blessed to be here and honor the sacrifice of the men whose lives were suddenly extinguished 60 years ago today."

The DC Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association has sponsored a wreathlaying each year on Jan. 29 since 2002. However, this year's event was bigger than normal since it marked the 60th anniversary. Approximately 75 people attended, including out of town visitors Elsie and Kelsie Kemp and family of Barron Springs, Va., Mrs. Jean Lockerby (sister of PFC

Fred Gilbert who perished aboard *Serpens*) and family of Florida; and the Zumbach family of Michigan (their relative, LT William Cleveland Carber was a *Serpens* plankowner but transferred before the explosion). A reception followed at the Women's Memorial at Arlington.

The *Serpens* story was published in Issue 01-05 of *The Reservist*. For more info, see the *USS Serpens* web site at: www.uss-serpens.org



Four wreaths were placed during the 60th anniversary wreathlaying at the *USS Serpens* monument at Arlington National Cemetery Jan. 29. The wreaths honored those lost from the Coast Guard, Coast Guard Reserve, Army and Public Health Service. The wreathlaying is held each year to commemorate the Coast Guard's largest single disaster during World War II.

Coast Guard Members Participate in Charity Match



Photo by Diane Reynolds

Reserve and Active Duty Coast Guard members joined together for a charity match, winning several competitions. Kneeling, left to right: FN Christopher Underwood, SN Brian Doyle. Back row, l to r: GM3 John Thomas, MK3 Kevin Fay, BM1 Roger Rebman, MKC James Ingerick, and GMCM Patrick O'Kelly.

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Eight Coast Guard active duty and reserve members competed in the Rochester Police Pistol Club's annual charity benefit shooting match Nov. 13, winning 10 medals and a trophy.

For the past 15 years the benefit match supported families of police officers who had died. This year, however, the match was held in honor of two local servicemen who died while serving overseas.

BM1 Roger L. Rebman, USCGR, of Coast Guard Station Rochester, won High Military Gold Medal, and GMCM Patrick O'Kelly, USCGR, of the Ninth District Office of Search and Rescue, took home the silver medal. The two paired up to win the gold medals for the two-man-team competition, then joined MKC James Ingerick, USCGR, and GM3 John Thomas, both of Coast Guard Group Buffalo Armory, to win the four-man-team gold medals and the Western New York Regional Trophy.

In the C class of the competition, FN Christopher Underwood of Coast Guard Station Rochester won the silver medal and MK3 Kevin Fay won bronze. BM2 Jason Zink and SN Brian Doyle also represented the Coast Guard.

Each member donated \$30 to shoot in the competition. That money will go to the families of the two local servicemen who were lost.

Protecting Chesapeake Bay

Twelve reservists conduct escort duties and security for the Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) ships transiting the Chesapeake Bay to its unloading platform at Cove Point in Southern Maryland. During 2004, approximately 80 ships safely transited the Chesapeake Bay and off loaded their cargo of over 8-million cubic meters of natural gas without incident.

Left to right: Chief William Bunting, BM1 Robert Barnes, BM1 Ken Sterling, BM1 Robert Gress, BM2 David Lockwood, MK3 Joseph Hollandsworth, MK3 Matthew McNamme, MK3 Theodore Gittings, MK3 Andrew Breck. Not pictured BM1 Mike Smith, MK2 Todd Mitchell and BM3 Warren Litton.



Photo courtesy Chief William Bunting & BM2 David Lockwood

D7 Implements MTSA

July 1 marked a milestone for international maritime safety when new safety and security regulations for ships and waterfront facilities went into effect under the International Convention for Ship and Port Security (ISPS) and Maritime Security Act (MTSA). For District Seven, a Reserve team from the Charleston and Jacksonville Military Outloads included, l to r: MST1 John Cynkar, LT Nancy Whitt, MST1 Ed Owens, MST1 Gerry Ginder, MSTC Sylvia Zabalo, MSTCS Russ Hoyser.

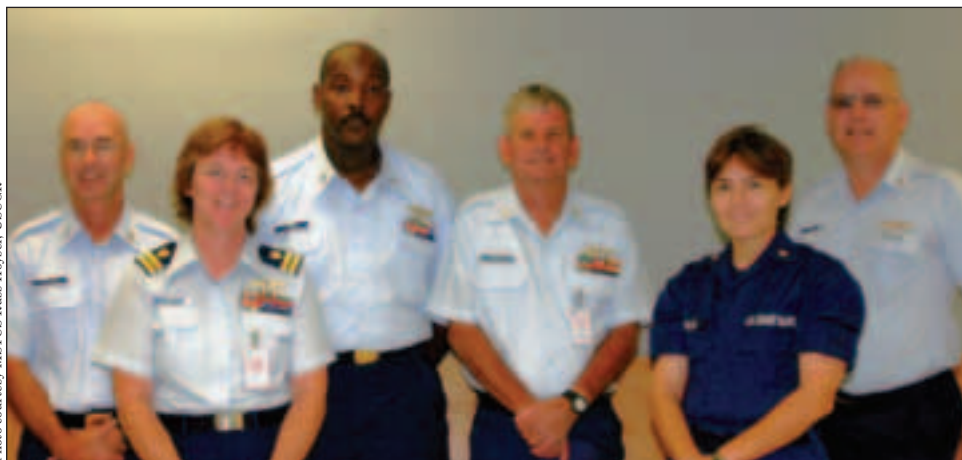


Photo courtesy MSTCS Russ Hoyser, USCGR

GRADUATIONS



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

REBI Class 02/05

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 02/05 graduated Nov. 19, 2004 at Training Center Cape May, N.J. Front row, left to right: YN3 Twila Chun, IT3 Michael Reformado, MK3 Joseph Wright, MK3 Wilfredo Topasna, PS3 Alesia West. Middle row, l to r: SN Jason McCabe, MST3 David McAllister II, IT3 Robert Huston, MK2 Jesse Seder, GM3 Mark Acevedo, MK3 Samuel Torres. Back row, l to r: SN Michael Langford, OS2 Richard Zuniga, PS2 Brian Martin, SN Aaron Burgin, PS2 Douglas Kowieski, DC3 Mauro Salazar, PS3 Michael Holdren. Standing are company commanders, l to r: MKCS Wayne Self, YN1 Lara Negron, MK2 Phillip Waldron. Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

REBI Class 03/05

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 03/05 graduated Dec. 17, 2004 at Training Center Cape May, N.J. Company commanders, standing, left to right: OSC Matt Starace, OS1 Tom Carella, MKCS Wayne Self. Front row, l to r: SN James Rogers, PS2 George Magallon, MK2 Rebecca Domeirer, YN3 Lisa Ann Fernandez, PS3 Anthony Toledo, MK2 Earnest Fagin, PS3 Gino Berletta, PS2 Michael Torres. Middle row, l to r: BM2 Ronald Gray Jr., PS3 Gene Cox, MST3 Phillip Houlton, PS3 Ailton Medina, MK2 Jeffrey Terry, SN John Wildey, PS3 Ian Cohoon, YN3 Alfio Colin. Back row, l to r: PS3 Charles Bloomfield, MK3 Robert Drescher, BM1 William Feldman, OS3 Ralph Schneider, PS2 Michael Overall, PS2 Shane Woodward.



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

REBI Class 04/05

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 04/05 graduated Jan. 21, 2005 at Training Center Cape May, N.J. Guidon Bearer, front and center: DC2 Gabriel Rukeyser. Front row, left to right: YN3 Nicole Guadagni, PS3 Tina Greene, MK3 Marco Rivera, SN Sarah Goltry, PS3 Alejandro Mendoza, SK3 Matthew Wilshon, SN Ayla Hayes, PS3 Robert Deal Jr. Middle row, l to r: BM1 Daniel Wilson, DC3 Roy White, PS3 Timothy Hicks, PS3 Michael Robison, PS3 Timothy Serdar, PS3 Ronald Brittain, BM3 Scott Santos. Back row, l to r: GM2 Wayne Nelson, SN Michael Florio, MK3 Gustavo Rodriguez, MK2 Samson Brown, MK3 Steven Delacrausaz. Company commanders: MKCS Wayne Self, front row, far right, not pictured AMT1 Adam Morton, SK2 Kenrick Douglas.



Calling it a Career...

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU RETIRE FROM THE COAST GUARD.

You've done it! Twenty or so years of drills, classes, time away from home, augmentation training, correspondence courses, Cape May, Petaluma, Yorktown, some hard work, lifelong friends and lasting memories — these are just a few of the things you'll be taking with you as you retire. Of course, if you've worked it right, you'll also be taking with you the promise of a pretty nice retirement income when you reach age 60, along with other retirement benefits. This retirement issue is divided into 10 sections, everything from an overview to figuring your retirement pay. So, let us help you finish your Reserve career strong and in the know....

SECTION I

Retirement: The Big Picture

There are two main categories of retirement. The common names for these are RET-2 (Retired Without Pay Awaiting Age 60) and RET-1 (Retired With Pay). This article gives you an overview of each.

RET-2: Retired Without Pay Awaiting Age 60

Title II of Public Law 810, 80th Congress (10 USC 12731a-12738) provides that an inactive duty reservist who has earned at least 20 years of satisfactory federal service (15 years for members who qualify for Reserve Transition Benefits) and has reached age 60 is entitled to retired pay based on the number of retirement points earned. A satisfactory year of federal service is one in which 50 or

more retirement points are earned within the member's anniversary year. Points are applicable only to the anniversary year in which they are earned.

Within a year after you have completed 20 years of satisfactory service, Personnel Service Center Retirement & Annuitant Services (PSC[RAS]) will send you a letter and point statement asserting that fact. This is not just a nice gesture by PSC. It is required by Public Law and is the key document to show that you are eligible for both retirement and retired pay starting at age 60. You should safeguard this letter along with your other important documents. You do not have to request eligibility letters, they are automatically issued upon qualification.

Important Note: Enlisted members with over 20 years of satisfactory service **MUST** continue to reenlist or request retirement awaiting pay at age 60 (RET-2).

Included in the envelope with your letter is a booklet on

the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) explaining what the various options mean, plus a blank form, CG-PSC 11221 (Survivor Benefit Plan Election Certificate). This form must be filled out and returned to PSC (RAS) for inclusion in your service record.

If you choose either Option B (coverage at age 60) or Option C (immediate coverage), you do not need to submit another form when you are ready to retire with pay. If you choose to defer making an election until age 60 (Option A), CG-PSC-4700 form will be included in a package sent to you approximately six months prior to your 60th birthday.

Once you have received your "retirement eligibility letter," you may retire or continue to drill. Generally, you may continue to drill and accumulate retirement points up to age 60. For officers, retirement is mandatory upon completion of 30 years commissioned service or age 60, whichever comes first. Enlisted members and chief warrant officers must retire upon reaching 30 years total service or age 60, whichever occurs first.

Let's say that you've decided to call it quits at 20 years. All you need to do is complete form CG-PSC-2055A and submit via the chain of command and your servicing ISC, indicating your desire to "retire awaiting age 60." Within a few months, a final point computation will be done and orders will be issued placing you in a RET-2 status.

You may remain in this category for 20 days or 20 years, depending on your circumstances. While in RET-2, you are in a kind of "limbo." You are "retired," but awaiting pay. You retain your I.D. card annotated with "Ret" in the grade block.

In addition, you do enjoy limited Military Airlift Command (MAC) Space Available flights within the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. You may also convert your Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) into Veteran's Group Life Insurance (VGLI). To do so, you must apply directly to the Office of SGLI in New Jersey within 120 days of being placed in a RET-2 status (an application form is included in your RET-2 package). Premiums are based on your age and the amount of coverage you want. You are also entitled to use commissaries, the exchange and other revenue generating facilities operated by non-appropriated fund activities for morale, welfare and recreation.

RET-1: Retired With Pay

Around six months before your 60th birthday, PSC (RAS) will send you a letter notifying you of your impending change in status. Included will be forms CG-PSC-2055A and 4700 which must be completed and returned. These two forms MUST be on file at PSC in order for your retirement processing to start.

Once both forms have been returned, PSC will prepare the necessary paperwork for your "final" retirement. Shortly before your 60th birthday, you'll receive yet another package from PSC. Included in this package will be:

- A Certificate of Retirement, signed by the Commandant (if member did not previously transfer to RET-2).
- Instructions and an Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card / DEERS Enrollment (DD Form 1172).
- A final computation of retirement point credits.
- A set of retirement orders.

Assuming all the paperwork is submitted and processed in a timely fashion, you should receive your first paycheck within 30-45 days following your 60th birthday. Although this is your primary benefit in RET-1, it is certainly not the only one. (See RET-1 entitlements box).

RET-1 Entitlements

As a RET-1, you are entitled to a Retired I.D. card, with all the benefits of a regular military retiree. You and your spouse, along with any eligible dependent children, are entitled to:

- Unlimited access to commissaries and exchanges.
- Use of Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR) facilities.
- Medical care through TRICARE and at military medical facilities on a space-available basis.
- Your spouse and any dependent children under 21 may use Space Available travel to and from OUTCONUS locations only and must be accompanied by you, the sponsor.
- The Survivor Benefit Plan or SBP, one of the best protection plans available for your spouse and other eligible survivors at your death.

As you can see, your entitlements go beyond having a nice pension. Keep these great benefits in mind when considering whether or not to make the Coast Guard Reserve a career. For a "part-time" career, your hard work will really pay off in the end.

SECTION II

Figuring Your Points

You may not be concerned about retirement points right now. Retirement may be the last thing on your mind at this point in your life. But if you are a “career” reservist or are considering it, take some time today (how about right now?) to look over your annual points statements to make sure you have been credited with all the retirement points you’re due.

As you look over your annual points statements, check to see that your pay base date (PBD), birthdate and anniversary date are all correct. Your pay base date may or may not be the same as your anniversary date. Before we continue, here are a couple of definitions:

• **Pay Base Date (PBD):** A date that provides a base point from which service for pay purposes may be readily computed. For persons with unbroken service, no matter how many active duty or Reserve components in which a particular member has served, the pay base date remains that date on which the member first enlisted in the armed forces. For persons with one or more periods of broken service (where enlistment has expired for more than 24 hours), the pay base date is constructed or recalculated by adding together all the days the member served in any of the armed forces, active duty and reserve. Then, a date is calculated that would account for all of those days if the member had served them in unbroken rather than broken service.

• **Anniversary Year (A/Y):** A period extending from the date the person entered into active service or into active status in a Reserve component (anniversary date) to the day preceding the date of entry or re-entry for the purpose of determining satisfactory federal service for retirement. The start date for each successive anniversary year will not be adjusted unless the member has a break in service. When a member with a break in service returns to an active reserve status or to active service, the anniversary date is revised to the date of return. Your anniversary year is an important consideration where points are concerned. In order to achieve what’s called a “satisfactory year for retirement purposes,” you must accumulate a total of 50 points within that anniversary year. Normally, that’s not a problem for reservists who are drilling regularly.

Example Number One

You miss two months’ worth of drills at the beginning of your anniversary year due to travel with your civilian job. Then you miss another month due to illness and one other Saturday near the end of your anniversary year due to another job conflict. Now pretend that you schedule your annual training for a period that actually starts after your anniversary year ends. Then see how your anniversary year comes out in black and white:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| IDT Drills | 34 points |
| Correspondence Courses | 00 points |
| Membership Points | 15 points |
| Active Duty | 00 points |
| Total | 49 points |
| | for given A/Y |

That total of 49 points is not enough for a satisfactory year of federal service for retirement purposes. While the points themselves count toward retirement, the anniversary year does not. Barring any other “unsatisfactory” years, you would have to serve 21 years of service in order to achieve 20 years of satisfactory federal service for retirement in this case.

Example Number Two

Let’s take a more typical (and much happier) example to see how the retirement point system usually works. BM3 Rightaway, a diligent reservist, attended 48 drills, performed 13 days of annual training and completed six three-point correspondence courses. Excluding for a moment her ADT points, we come up with the following:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| IDT Drills | 48 points |
| Correspondence Courses | 18 points |
| Membership | 15 points |
| Subtotal | 81 points |

The maximum number of active duty points that can be credited for retirement by law in any given anniversary year is 75. When this subtotal is adjusted by adding the 13 points BM3 Rightaway earned for annual training, we come up with this:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Adjusted Inactive Duty Pts | 75 points |
| Active Duty | 13 points |
| Total | 88 points |

About three months after the end of your anniversary year (A/Y), a Coast Guard Reserve Annual Statement of Retirement Points (CG-4175A) is generated to reflect your past anniversary year’s performance. This three-month time delay is built into the system in order to allow for the normal processing of points accumulated during your anniversary year.

Example Number Three

Let’s take another example to see how your anniversary

date can affect your annual point statement.

MK2 Barque is a hard-working reservist and attends 48 drills during his A/Y. He begins his annual training for A/Y 2004 on June 26, 2004 for 12 days. His A/Y ends on June 30, 2004. Here is what his annual retirement points will look like for 2004:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| IDT Drills | 48 points |
| Correspondence Points | 00 points |
| Membership Points | 15 points |
| Subtotal | 63 points |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Inactive Duty Points | 63 points |
| Active Duty | 05 points |
| Total | 68 points |

As you can see, five of MK2 Barque's 12 days' annual training will count for A/Y 2004; the other seven will be credited to A/Y 2005.

During his next anniversary year, MK2 Barque again attends all his drills, but completes his annual training before the end of his A/Y. Here's what his annual point statement will look like for 2005:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| IDT drills | 48 points |
| Correspondence Courses | 00 points |
| Membership | 15 points |
| Subtotal | 63 points |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Inactive Duty Points | 63 points |
| Active Duty | 19 points |
| Total | 82 points |

For retirement purposes, MK2 Barque has earned a "satisfactory year" of federal service in both 2004 and 2005, but the points earned for retirement are credited only in the anniversary year in which they are actually performed. In the case of correspondence course points, credit would be given based on the date given on the course completion letter.

A Satisfactory Year:

Retirement Versus Training Purposes

Keep in mind, however, that a "satisfactory year" for retirement purposes is not the same as a "satisfactory year" for training purposes. It's easy to get the two confused.

A minimum of 50 points must be earned in each member's anniversary year for credit as a satisfactory year for retirement. Each reservist must complete 12 days of active duty for his/her Annual Training (AT) requirement per fiscal year. The responsibility to meet the AT requirement lies with the reservist. Units need to consider the fact that the member must earn 50 retirement points each anniversary year when they

schedule AT. A member may request a waiver for annual training (IAW 3-B-4 of the *Reserve Policy Manual*). This will not ensure the member has a satisfactory year for retirement if they do not earn the required minimum 50 points. A fiscal year has maximums established for budget purposes. Most reserve members are limited to 48 paid drills and 12 days AT each fiscal year. Many reserve anniversary years do not correspond with the fiscal year. Each reserve member has two different requirements they must keep abreast of each year, the minimum fiscal year attendance for IDT and AT, and the minimum requirements for a satisfactory year.

Statement of Creditable Service

Let's say you spent several years in the Navy and the Navy Reserve before transferring to the Coast Guard Reserve, and now you're wondering if you received all the retirement points due you for your prior service.

Somewhere in your service record you should have a Statement of Creditable Service (PSC 1071), which was generated sometime after you joined the Coast Guard Reserve from whatever component in which you previously served. This statement shows all prior active and inactive duty, with what component it was completed, and a total amount in years, months and days of satisfactory federal service.

You may also have a U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Retirement Annual Point Statement (CG-4175A), a real nifty little document which spells out line by line every retirement point earned for each anniversary year in every active duty and Reserve component in which you have served (see separate story on Reserve Point Statements for a sample copy).

If you have prior service and don't have a Statement of Creditable Service somewhere in your record, you may request one by letter via the chain of command to your Servicing Personnel Office (SPO).

It's up to you!

The bottom line is this: You are the one with the greatest interest in seeing that you get all the retirement points that are properly due you. Check your annual point statements carefully and report any errors, backed up by documentation, to your SPO via the chain of command.

Be sure to consider your anniversary date when you schedule your annual training. Make sure your scheduled annual training will satisfy your annual training requirements and will not jeopardize your chances of receiving a satisfactory year of federal service for retirement purposes.

Ask questions of your unit admin if things just don't look quite right to you. Remember, they aren't the ones who have the most interest in your retirement. The one who has the most interest is you! You worked hard for your retirement points. You've earned them. Enjoy them!

SECTION III

Estimating Your Future Earnings

And now for the \$25,000 question (OK, so maybe not that much): How much will your long-awaited retirement check be? While there is a complicated formula for calculating retired pay, the chart below is a short-cut method for arriving at very close to the same result. The point values in the chart were calculated based on the formula: Basic (active duty) pay (using a Jan. 1, 2005 pay chart) times .025; take that result and divide by 360.

To use the chart, multiply the total number of retirement points you have earned by the appropriate multiplier from the chart. If you haven't retired yet, you can make an estimate based upon your past points performance, how many more years you intend to stay in and at what grade you intend to retire.

For example, YNC Crackerjack earned 3,784 points in 20 years of active and reserve service. Using the chart (for an E-7 at 20 years), his estimated monthly retired pay would be:

3,784 Points
x \$.240 Multiplier
\$908.16 Retired Pay

Now let's take another example. MK2 Jones has earned 430 points in her six-year Coast Guard Reserve career. She plans to stay in for at least 20 years and make CW04 before retiring. If she continues at her present rate of earning 72 points per anniversary year, she would earn:

1440 Points
x \$.355 Multiplier
\$511.20 Retired Pay

Note that your estimated retirement pay may be quite different from the amount you receive these days as a drilling reservist. It may, in fact, be much higher than what you're getting now. For example, a reserve chief with 20 years of service grosses around \$416.60 for four drills each month (basic monthly active duty pay divided by 30, then multiplied by four). If that chief then retires and starts receiving retired pay at age 60, the amount of retirement (in 2005 dollars) would greatly depend on the number of retirement points accumulated.

- **At 2,000 points, gross pay would be \$480.00.**
- **At 3,000 points, gross pay would be \$720.00.**

- **At 4,000 points, gross pay would be \$960.00.**

You can use this chart to determine what the difference in your retired pay might be at various grades, number of years and point levels. The estimates you come up with might even spur you on to think about one more advancement or maybe some ADSW-RC or ADSW-AC to pile up more retirement points. Remember, we're talking year 2005 dollars here. Your actual retired pay will be different.

Approximate Point Value For Retirement Benefits

This Value of a Point Table assists you in determining what your approximate gross monthly retired pay may be at age 60. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service computes the exact amount of pay when you are certified for retired pay. Computation is based on the pay scale in effect on your 60th birthday or the day you enter on the retired rolls, whichever is later. The columns are based on your total years service for pay (longevity) and may be more than your total years qualifying service (good years).

| Pay Grade | 20-24 Years | 25-29 Years | 30-34 Years | 35-39 Years |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| VADM (O8) | 0.787 | 0.798 | 0.815 | 0.844 |
| RADM (U) (O8) | 0.740 | 0.764 | 0.784 | 0.784 |
| RADM (L) (O7) | 0.675 | 0.675 | 0.675 | 0.678 |
| CAPT (O6) | 0.538 | 0.553 | 0.568 | 0.596 |
| CDR (O5) | 0.472 | 0.488 | 0.486 | 0.488 |
| LCDR (O4) | 0.412 | 0.412 | 0.412 | 0.412 |
| LT (O3) | 0.353 | 0.353 | 0.353 | 0.353 |
| LTJG (O2) | 0.258 | 0.258 | 0.258 | 0.258 |
| ENS (O1) | 0.205 | 0.205 | 0.205 | 0.205 |
| LT (O3E)* | 0.377 | 0.377 | 0.377 | 0.377 |
| LTJG (O2E)* | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.30 |
| ENS (O1E)* | 0.254 | 0.254 | 0.254 | 0.254 |
| CW5 (W5) | 0.385 | 0.388 | 0.412 | 0.425 |
| CW4 (W4) | 0.355 | 0.367 | 0.379 | 0.391 |
| CW3 (W3) | 0.313 | 0.318 | 0.328 | 0.338 |
| CW2 (W2) | 0.276 | 0.286 | 0.295 | 0.295 |
| WO1 (W1) | 0.254 | 0.254 | 0.254 | 0.254 |
| MCPO (E8) | 0.318 | 0.335 | 0.343 | 0.363 |
| SCPO (E8) | 0.274 | 0.287 | 0.293 | 0.310 |
| CPO (E7) | 0.240 | 0.251 | 0.259 | 0.277 |
| PO1 (E6) | 0.202 | 0.202 | 0.202 | 0.202 |
| PO2 (E5) | 0.170 | 0.170 | 0.170 | 0.170 |
| PO3 (E4) | 0.138 | 0.138 | 0.138 | 0.138 |
| Seaman (E3) | 0.114 | 0.114 | 0.114 | 0.114 |

WITH OVER FOUR (4) YEARS OF ACTIVE ENLISTED SERVICE.

To compute the approximate amount of retired pay you will receive (before taxes and other deductions), multiply the total number of your retirement points by the amount shown above in the Value of a Point Table for your pay grade and years of service for longevity pay purposes. For example, if a CDR (O5) has earned a total of 4,000 retirement points and has over 22 years service for pay, his/her approximate amount of monthly retired pay would be \$1,944.00 (4,000 x .486). If a SCPO (E8) has 3,250 points and has over 24 years service for pay, his/her monthly retired pay would be approximately \$952.25 (3,250 x .293). Eligible members of the Reserve components, upon application, can receive retired pay from age 60 for the rest of their lives. They may provide a portion of that benefit for their survivors by electing coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). Keep in mind this is an approximation. Your actual retirement pay may vary plus or minus a few dollars. These values are taken from a link to the Army's Web site from Personnel Service Center's Retirement & Annuity Services Web site, www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/RAS.htm

SECTION IV

The “Last Six-Years Rule”

Ed’s note: In the FY05 NDAA, the “Last Six-Years Rule” was amended. The change is highlighted here, and will be included in an upcoming revision of the Reserve Policy Manual.

Your 20th year of service has finally arrived. You decide it’s time to pass the baton to a new recruit and request retired without pay while awaiting age 60 (RET-2). A reservist is entitled to retired pay, upon application, if the person is at least 60 years of age, has performed at least 20 years of satisfactory service, and, **only in the case of a member who accumulated 20 years of qualifying service before May 1, 2005**, has performed the last six years of qualifying service as a member of a Reserve component.

You may recall that previously, to be eligible for a non-regular (Reserve) retirement, the law required all military members to perform the last six years of qualifying service in a Reserve component. This is no longer the case. This important change was included in the Ronald Reagan National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of FY-2005 (P.L. 108-375), signed into law Oct. 28, 2004. Section 501 of the Act amends, among other things, 10 U.S.C. 12731 by repealing

the requirement. **The revision permits reservists who accumulate 20 satisfactory years of federal service on or after May 1, 2005 to request transfer to the Retired Reserve regardless of intervening periods of service in a Regular component anytime during the preceding six years.**

This change will be included in an upcoming revision to the *Reserve Policy Manual*, COMDTINST M1001.28A, Chapter 8.C.1.

Your career is important to the Coast Guard, but ultimately you have the greatest interest to protect. You are encouraged to maintain a personal record and include a chronological history of service performed. Keep copies of everything — including your orders. Ask questions if things don’t look quite right. Your retirement is a hard-earned benefit, so protect it and enjoy it!



Retirees & Wearing of the Uniform

Retired personnel not on active duty are entitled to wear the prescribed uniform of the rank or rate held on the retired list when the wearing of the uniform is authorized under such regulations as may be prescribed. Regulations permit the wearing of the uniform at military funerals, memorial services, inaugurations, and patriotic parades on national holidays, or other military parades or ceremonies in which any active or reserve United States military unit is taking part. Retired members are prohibited from wearing the uniform in connection with non-military, personal, or civilian enterprises, or activities of a civil nature. When not on active duty in a foreign country, they cannot wear the uniform except when authorized by U.S. Coast Guard Uniform Regulations.

— **Source: Personnel Service Center’s Reserve Retirement Info**

SECTION V

Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan

Ed's note: This article gives readers an overview of the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan with excerpts below from the 2005 Reserve Forces Almanac. Please refer to Part V of the Almanac for more detailed information on this important topic. To obtain a copy of the Almanac, see the Web site: www.militaryalmanac.com or write Uniformed Services Almanac, Inc., P.O. Box 4144, Falls Church, VA 22044-0144. 703-532-1631; FAX: 703-532-1635.

The Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RC-SBP) is designed to provide retirement eligible reservists the opportunity to select guaranteed protection for their survivors. These survivors may be spouse, former spouse, dependent children, or a person with an insurable interest in the reservist.

Public Law 95-397, passed in 1978, established RC-SBP. Under this law, members of the Reserve Forces can make important decisions regarding survivor protection as soon as they are officially notified that they are retirement eligible (they've completed 20 years of satisfactory federal service).

Reservists who decide to retire under the 15-year early retirement program are eligible to enroll in the RC-SBP program, and the same rules, regulations and laws apply to them. Survivor annuities can be as much as 55 percent of the retired pay the reservist is receiving (or would have received) at time of death.

The Three Options

Under RC-SBP, eligible reservists have three options for providing financial protection for survivors. One of these options must be elected within 90 days after you receive notification that you will be entitled to retired pay at age 60. If you do not make an election within this 90-day period, you are automatically covered at the maximum level under Option C (via Public Law 106-398, Section 655, Oct. 30, 2000).

Option A: You may decline participating in RC-SBP, but your survivor(s) would not benefit from SBP should you die before age 60. However, if you do reach 60, you would be eligible to participate in SBP at that time. This coincides with when you would begin receiving retired pay. If you decline to participate, your service will automatically enroll you in the SBP at 60, unless you decline in writing, and your spouse concurs.

Option B: This option allows for an actuarially reduced SBP annuity for your survivor(s). If you die before age 60, it will start on the date that would have been your 60th birthday. If you live to 60 or later, it will begin the day following your death.

Option C: By selecting this option, you may provide an actuarially reduced annuity for your survivor(s) that will start on the day following the date of your death regardless of whether this happens before or after you reach age 60.

Cost and Annuities

Under Options B and C, the cost of participation will be shared by you and your survivor(s). Your share of the cost depends on the option you choose, the base amount you choose,

| Options | Member Dies Before Reaching Age 60 | Member Dies After Reaching Age 60 |
|--|--|--|
| (A) Member waits to age 60 to make election | No survivor benefit, however, the surviving spouse (dependent) is eligible for medical benefits. Eligibility begins on the date the member would have turned 60. | 55% of the elected base amount |
| (B) Survivor annuity deferred to age 60 or date of death whichever is later | 55% of what retired pay would have been at age 60 reduced by actuarial charge; plus medical care to include TRICARE if survivor is under 65 | 55% of the elected base amount reduced by actuarial charge |
| (C) Survivor annuity beginning at time of death | 55% of what retired pay would have been at time of death reduced by actuarial charge; plus medical care to include TRICARE if survivor is under 65 | 55% of retired pay reduced by actuarial charge |

and an actuarial factor related to your age at election and the age(s) of your RC-SBP beneficiary(ies) at the time of your election. A survivor's share of the cost will be in the form of an actuarial reduction applied to the annuity. This reduction is based on your age at election, option chosen, and ages of beneficiary(ies) at the time of election.

Generally, though your beneficiaries are given the protection, there are no payments due for RC-SBP coverage until you reach age 60 and are entitled to receive retired pay. At that time, the monthly cost is withheld from your monthly retired pay.

Colas, Tax Treatment & Social Security Offset

SBP premiums and survivor annuities are adjusted at the same time and by the same percentage as military retired pay. Usually, military retired pay is adjusted annually at the same rate as the increase in the Consumer Price Index. This is a significant advantage of SBP that is generally not offered by alternative programs.

SBP premiums are not counted as taxable income since they are paid in the form of reductions in participants' retired pay. However, SBP annuities are considered taxable income for federal income tax purposes. Many states exempt SBP annuities in whole or in part from taxable income for state income tax purposes. Contact your tax advisor for further information and assistance.

Finally, be aware that SBP effectively guarantees that surviving spouses of SBP participants are able to receive an income equal up to 55 percent of the gross retired pay. Under age 62, this benefit is generally provided solely through SBP; after age 62, it is a combination of SBP and the Social Security survivor's benefits. SBP payments to a surviving spouse will be offset by the amount of Social Security survivor's benefit that would be paid if based solely on the member's military service.

Again, reservists are highly encouraged to read the 2005 Reserve Forces Almanac to educate themselves on the intricacies of the RC-SBP.

SECTION VI

USCGR Benefits Chart

| Coast Guard Reservist in Selected Reserve (SELRES) (Green ID) and Dependents (Red ID) | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|---------|------|
| Coast Guard Reservists in ISL/IRR (over 20) (Green ID) and Dependents (Red ID) | | | | | |
| Coast Guard Reservist on ISL (under 20) (Green ID) and Dependents (Red ID) | | | | | |
| Coast Guard Reserve Retiree before age 60 (Red ID) & Dependents (Red ID) | | | | | |
| Coast Guard Reserve Retiree at age 60 (Blue ID) & Dependents (Tan ID), | | | | | |
| 1. Retired Pay | Yes | No | No | No | No |
| 2. Clothing Sales Store | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 3. Commissary | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 4. Dental Services | Yes* | No | No | No | No** |
| 5. Education Services | Yes | No | No | No | Yes |
| 6. Exchange Services | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes |
| 7. Family Services Program | Yes | No | No | No | Yes |
| 8. Legal Assistance | Yes | No | No | No | No |
| 9. Medical Services | Yes | No | No | No | No* |
| 10. Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 11. Officer, Enlisted Clubs | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12. Packaged Liquor Store | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes |
| 13. Servicemen's Group Life Insurance | No* | No | No | Yes/No* | Yes |
| 14. Space Available Travel | Yes | Yes* | No | No | Yes* |
| 15. Theater | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 16. Transient Quarters | Yes | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| 17. Coast Guard Mutual Assistance | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 18. Survivor Benefit Plan | Yes | Yes* | No | Yes | No |
| 19. TRICARE Benefits | Yes | No | No | No | No |
| 20. Longevity for Pay Purposes | Yes | Yes* | Yes* | Yes* | Yes* |
| 21. Eligible for Mobilization | No | Yes* | Yes* | Yes* | Yes |
| 22. Veterans Group Life Insurance | Yes* | Yes* | Yes* | Yes* | No |

Notes*

Line 4 — Dental: Retirees and dependents have option to purchase dental package through Retired Dental Plan (TRDP). Call 1-888-838-8737 or www.ddpdelta.org

Line 4 — Dental:** The SELRES member will only receive Dental while on active duty for over 30 days; their dependents do not. However, SELRES members are eligible to participate in the TRICARE Dental program.

Line 9 — Medical Services: Shall, upon request, be provided health care in uniformed services facilities, subject to space and availability of services (contact the local uniformed health facility for type and availability of care).

Line 10 — Morale, Welfare, & Recreation Programs: MWR includes: Arts & Crafts shops, bowling centers, child care centers, golf courses, libraries, outdoor recreation and sports facilities, recreation centers, youth activities and recreation membership clubs. The commanding officer determines the priority use of MWR facilities and programs based on their requirements of assigned personnel. The MWR office usually has a policy letter for that installation stating established priority use which varies from unit to unit.

Line 11 — Officer and Enlisted Clubs: Members are normally eligible for membership if applicable, unless denied for lack of facility space or other justifiable cause specified by the commanding officer.

Line 13 — SGLI: Coverage can be converted to Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) upon release from active duty, active duty for training, or upon separation from Reserve forces, effective at the end of the 120-day SGLI extension period. IRR drilling for points only are entitled to SGLI. Non-drilling ASP are not entitled to SGLI.

Line 14 — Space Available Travel: Reserve Retirees before age 60 are restricted to flights in CONUS, and to, from and within Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Dependents of Reserve Retirees are not authorized to travel until member attains age 60. At age 60 (RET-1), members are eligible to travel in/out CONUS. Dependents are eligible to travel with members on domestic leg segments of international flights during the beginning or end of their international flight, (i.e. if a flight originates in Texas, stops in California as part of the mission, and then continues overseas, dependents eligible for travel may fly from Texas to the overseas area on the flight. They may not, however, travel simply from Texas to California).

Line 16 — Transient Quarters: Temporary Lodging Facilities and transient quarters are available to all Coast Guard Reserve Retirees and their dependents on a space available basis. (Priority 2).

Line 18 — Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP): Deductions for premiums are not payable until the member reaches age 60 (RET-1) status if there is a surviving beneficiary.

Line 20 — Longevity for Pay Purposes: Continues until 60th birthday.

Line 21 — Eligibility for Mobilization: Mobilization orders may be issued to members under 60 years of age.

Line 22 — Veterans Group Life Insurance: Available to all members being separated from Reserve forces. Insurance applications and premiums are sent directly to OSGLI.

DEPENDENTS — May receive commissary, exchange, TRICARE, theater, and medical services when applicable.

* Note: These listings are not meant to imply that all benefits and entitlements are immediate or total. Benefits do change from time to time, but the information was current as of March 2005. The notes above should answer most questions.

SECTION VII

Retirement Point Statements

The Coast Guard Reserve came out with a new Annual Retirement Point Statement in 1997. This Form, CG-4175A, is a concise fact sheet containing member information and a summary of duty performed with points earned for the previous year as well as over the course of your career. It gives an overall snapshot of your career. The sample CG-4175A published here should look familiar to most reservists by now. Also, below is some good information to keep on hand for future reference as well.

Member Information

Summary of Duty Performed During Past Year

Cumulative Points for the Year

U. S. COAST GUARD RESERVE
RETIREMENT POINT STATEMENT

04/25/2000

ANNUAL STATEMENT CG-4175A

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| MEMBER'S SSN: 008-04-1790 | BIRTH DATE: 05/31/1955 |
| RANK: PSC | PAY BASE DATE: 09/14/1977 |
| PERMANENT UNIT: 98-00098 | ANNIVERSARY DATE: 09/14 |
| | PERSRU: 98-48850-03 |

SEMP R. PARATUS
1 COAST GUARD PLACE
COASTTIEVILLE, USA 01790-2000

RECORD OF DUTY PERFORMED FROM 09/14/1998 THRU 09/13/1999

| PTS | DUTY | PAY | PTS | DUTY | PAY |
|-------------------------|------|---------|-------------------------|------|---------|
| 01/01/1999 - 09/13/1998 | 256 | RC YES | 09/19/1998 - 09/19/1998 | 2 | IDT YES |
| 09/28/1998 - 12/31/1998 | 95 | RC YES | 09/14/1998 - 09/14/1998 | 1 | RC YES |
| 09/20/1998 - 09/20/1998 | 2 | IDT YES | | | |

DRILL POINTS: RC = 352 IDT = 4

NO CORRESPONDENCE COURSES COMPLETED FROM 09/14/1998 THRU 09/13/1999

POINTS EARNED FROM 09/14/1998 THRU 09/13/1999

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| DRILL POINTS: 4 | INACTIVE DUTY ADJUSTED POINTS: 19 |
| CORRESPONDENCE COURSE POINTS: 0 | ACTIVE DUTY POINTS: 352 |
| MEMBERSHIP POINTS: 15 | --- |
| INACTIVE DUTY POINTS: 19 | TOTAL POINTS THIS PERIOD: 365 |

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Actual Size 8 1/2 x 11

Retirement "Pointers"

Annual Point Statement Issuance Schedule*

| <u>Anniversary Month</u> | <u>Month Statement Mailed</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| October | January |
| November | February |
| December | March |
| January | April |
| February | May |
| March | June |
| April | July |
| May | August |
| June | September |
| July | October |
| August | November |
| September | December |

* Annual Point Statements are mailed within 90 days of your Anniversary Month.

Verifying Your Points

Here's a listing of what the Reserve Retirement Team can use to verify a reservist's total points:

- Signed Computation of Retirement Points Credit (CG-4973A)
- Copies of signed and endorsed orders
- Copies of Unit Attendance Reports (UAR)
- Leave and Earning Statements (LES)
- Annual Retirement Points Statement (CG-4175)
- Completed Drill Cards

- Letter of Completion for correspondence courses
- DD-214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- Statement of creditable service from other services or Reserve components

What You Can Do...

What a reservist can do to ensure his/her record is complete:

- Have orders for all periods of active duty signed and endorsed.
- Keep copies of all paperwork in a safe place (firebox or safety deposit box) including: LES, orders, DD-214, etc.
- Provide PSC (RAS) with a current address and phone number when corresponding.

For more retirement information, contact PSC...

Commanding Officer (RAS)
Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683
1-800-772-8724;
FAX: 785-295-2639
Web:
www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic/

***** SUMMARY OF POINTS *****

| | CORR COURSES | DRILL/ DUTY | MEMBER SHIP | SUB TOTAL | ADJ TOTAL | ACDU/ ACDUTRA | TOTAL |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------|
| COAST GUARD RESERVE | | | | | | | |
| 09/14/1998 - 09/13/1999 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 19 | 19 | 352 | 365 |
| 09/14/1997 - 09/13/1998 | 0 | 49 | 15 | 64 | 64 | 25 | 89 |
| 09/14/1996 - 09/13/1997 | 0 | 48 | 15 | 63 | 63 | 31 | 94 |
| 09/14/1995 - 09/13/1996 | 0 | 51 | 15 | 66 | 60 | 29 | 89 |
| 09/14/1994 - 09/13/1995 | 0 | 43 | 15 | 58 | 58 | 102 | 160 |
| 09/14/1993 - 09/13/1994 | 0 | 54 | 15 | 69 | 60 | 26 | 86 |
| 09/14/1992 - 09/13/1993 | 0 | 45 | 15 | 60 | 60 | 42 | 102 |
| 09/14/1991 - 09/13/1992 | 0 | 49 | 15 | 64 | 60 | 30 | 90 |
| 09/14/1990 - 09/13/1991 | 0 | 24 | 15 | 39 | 39 | 219 | 258 |
| 09/14/1989 - 09/13/1990 | 0 | 49 | 15 | 64 | 60 | 23 | 83 |
| 09/14/1988 - 09/13/1989 | 0 | 43 | 15 | 58 | 58 | 15 | 73 |
| 09/14/1987 - 09/13/1988 | 0 | 51 | 15 | 66 | 60 | 13 | 73 |
| 09/14/1986 - 09/13/1987 | 0 | 38 | 15 | 53 | 53 | 13 | 66 |
| 09/14/1985 - 09/13/1986 | 0 | 44 | 15 | 59 | 59 | 12 | 71 |
| 09/14/1984 - 09/13/1985 | 0 | 49 | 15 | 64 | 60 | 13 | 73 |
| 09/14/1983 - 09/13/1984 | 9 | 48 | 15 | 72 | 60 | 16 | 76 |
| 09/14/1982 - 09/13/1983 | 0 | 48 | 15 | 63 | 60 | 13 | 73 |
| 09/14/1981 - 09/13/1982 | 0 | 47 | 15 | 62 | 60 | 12 | 72 |
| 09/14/1980 - 09/13/1981 | 0 | 50 | 15 | 65 | 60 | 13 | 73 |
| 09/14/1979 - 09/13/1980 | 22 | 46 | 15 | 83 | 60 | 19 | 79 |
| 09/14/1978 - 09/13/1979 | 18 | 48 | 15 | 81 | 60 | 13 | 73 |
| 09/14/1977 - 09/13/1978 | 24 | 37 | 15 | 76 | 60 | 13 | 73 |

TOTAL SATISFACTORY SERVICE: 22 YEARS, 00 MONTHS, 00 DAYS. 2,291 POINTS.

THIS IS YOUR RESERVE POINT STATEMENT REFLECTING ALL RESERVE RETIREMENT POINTS EARNED DURING YOUR CAREER.

PLEASE VERIFY EACH ENTRY ON THIS STATEMENT. IF YOU BELIEVE THIS STATEMENT IS INCORRECT, PLEASE HIGHLIGHT ANY DISCREPANCIES AND PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (E.G., IDT/ADT ORDERS FOR MISSING DUTY, CORRESPONDENCE COURSE COMPLETION LETTERS, ETC.) ALONG WITH A WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF THE DISCREPANCY, WITHIN 30 DAYS, TO:

COMMANDING OFFICER (SES)
COAST GUARD PAY & PERSONNEL CENTER
444 S.E. QUINCY STREET
TOPEKA, KS 66683-3591

IF YOU EARNED FEWER THAN 50 TOTAL POINTS IN ANY ANNIVERSARY YEAR, THAT ANNIVERSARY YEAR IS NOT SATISFACTORY SERVICE FOR RETIREMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000 INCREASED THE NUMBER OF POINTS THAT MAY BE CREDITED FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY. FOR ANY ANNIVERSARY YEAR ENDING ON OR AFTER 23 SEPT 1999, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF IDT POINTS THAT CAN BE CREDITED FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY IS 75 POINTS. FOR ANY ANNIVERSARY YEAR ENDING PRIOR TO 23 SEPT 1999, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF IDT POINTS THAT CAN BE CREDITED FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY IS 60 POINTS.

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Summary of Career Points

Corrections to Retirement Point Statements*

| <i>If you are claiming...</i> | <i>Then you need to provide...</i> |
|---|---|
| Prior active service in another branch of service | DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) |
| Prior reserve service in another branch of service | Statement of service detailing IDT / ADT performed by anniversary year and any DD Form 214 issued (if applicable). |
| Coast Guard ADT or ADSW with or without pay, for periods less than 140 days. | Copy of front and back of order authorizing the duty. In cases of non-consecutive ADT/ADSW, a complete listing (including endorsements) of actual days the duty was performed should be provided. |
| Inactive duty for training (IDT) | Copy of old Reserve Earning Statements, Unit Attendance Records, or Leave & Earnings Statements. |
| Correspondence course | Letter of completion (preferably one reflecting the number of points awarded for the course). |
| <p><i>All requests for correction of duty performed in the Coast Guard will be verified against copies of microfilm from the old payroll system, and against historical point listings, to ensure the point credit is warranted. Send requests to:</i></p> <p>Commanding Officer (SES), Personnel Service Center, 444 SE Quincy St., Topeka, KS 66683-3591</p> | |

Reserve Retirement Point Rules

| <i>Point crediting rule...</i> | <i>In other words</i> |
|--|---|
| Reservists may not be credited for more than one type of duty on an individual day. Inactive duty credit cannot be given for any day in which active duty (with or without pay) is performed. Correspondence course completions cannot be credited while in an active or inactive duty status. | You can't be at more than one place at a time. |
| In determining satisfactory years for retirement, duty performed in one anniversary year may not be credited to another anniversary year. | For retirement purposes, all duty performed is creditable on the actual day it is performed. |
| A reservist must earn 50 creditable points during his/her actual anniversary year in order for the anniversary year to be considered a satisfactory year for retirement. | You can be given extra time to meet your minimum drill requirements for purposes of "satisfactory participation;" however, the law does not allow extensions/waivers to the requirement that 50 points be earned during an actual "anniversary year." |
| The minimum number of retirement points that must be earned during an officer's (including warrants) anniversary year in order to remain in an active status has been increased from 27 to 50. | "Change to Annual Screening for Participation of Reserve Officers," ALDIST 004/96 announced this major and important change, effective July 1, 1996. Warrants refer to ALDIST 113/96. |

SECTION VIII

Approaching Age 60!

You just turned 59 and one-half years old. You remember reading in your 20-year satisfactory federal service letter that you should notify someone when you turn 59 and one-half years old (but you don't remember who) to make preparations to start receiving retired pay at age 60.

Personnel Service Center (RAS), in Topeka, Kan., is the office you should receive a letter from approximately six months prior to your 60th birthday. The letter will include a "Reserve Retirement Transfer Request," CG-PSC-2055A form; and a copy of the Reserve Component Retirement Package, that includes a "Reserve Component Retired Pay Account Worksheet," CG-PSC-4700 form.

The two forms, CG-PSC-2055A and CG-PSC-4700, must be completed and returned to PSC(RAS) at least 30 days prior to your 60th birthday. Information you provide on these two forms is used to open your retired pay account.

If you do not receive a letter from PSC(RAS) before you turn 60 years old, you need to call the RET-1 Yeoman at PSC, 1-800-772-8724, extension 3412. If you have moved or know members that have moved that are coming up on age 60, ask them if they have heard from PSC. If not, give them this phone number: 1-800-772-8724, extension 3412.

After you turn 60 years old, you will receive another letter from PSC(RAS) approximately 20 days later. This letter will be from your PSC(RAS) Pay Technician, the caretaker of your retired pay and personnel file. The letter will give you a forecast of the amount of your monthly retired pay and monthly deductions. Submit changes for your address, dependents, tax withholdings, etc, to your PSC(RAS) Pay Technician.

If you haven't already checked your Annual Point Statement, now is a good time. Keep all of these statements. Points are used to calculate your retired pay. You want to make sure all of your points have been captured throughout your career. If you find discrepancies and are still drilling — contact your unit's admin staff. If you are in RET-2 status (retired awaiting retired pay) — contact PSC, 1-800-772-8724, extension 3412.

While you are waiting to receive your retired pay, PSC has a Web site that includes a lot of useful information. It's one you want to post on the refrigerator door and/or keep in your "favorites" file! The retiree newsletter, Evening Colors, is also included on the Web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/ Best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement from the staff at PSC (RAS).

SECTION IX

Briefly Speaking

PERSONNEL SERVICE CENTER (RAS)

When it comes to the "aahs" of retirement, there's no place like Personnel Service Center (PSC) Retirement and Annuity Services in Topeka, Kan. Call 1-800-772-8724, or check out their Web site at www.uscg.mil/hrsic (go to Retirees & Annuitants), or e-mail: psc-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil. The Web site includes links to Retiree Newsletter (Evening Colors), Retirement Processing and Pay, Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan, Retiree Council and much more.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you're a retiree and you move, please notify Personnel Service Center of your change of address at 1-800-772-8724 or e-mail them at: psc-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil. Retirees who contact *The Reservist* are simply referred to PSC since the magazine derives its mailing list from PSC.

NATIONAL RETIREE COUNCIL

This council serves as a direct link between the Coast Guard and its retired community. It ensures that retirees are kept informed on legislative issues that can impact their lives. Current co-chairs are RADM Fred L. Ames, USCG(Ret.) and MCPOCG Vince Patton, USCG(Ret.). COMDTINST 1800.5D has more information about the council. Web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/retiree/retiree.htm

OSGLI ADDRESS

The Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (including VGLI) can be reached at OSGLI, 290 West Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039. 1-800-419-1473. Web: <http://www.vba.va.gov/> (go to "VA Life Insurance").

RESERVE PERSONNEL MANUAL

The Coast Guard Reserve Policy Manual (COMDTINST M1001.28A, Change 1), Chapter 8, Sections C and D, are on Retirement. This manual is located on the Reserve Web site under "Publications" at: www.uscg.mil/reserve

"EVENING COLORS," RETIREE NEWSLETTER

This informative quarterly publication is available on the Web at: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/ras.htm. The hard copy version was phased out several years ago.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

The TSP is a retirement savings plan for civilians who are employed by the United States Government and members of the uniformed services. To learn more, go to: www.tsp.gov

SECTION X

A Final Word From PSC

Personnel Services Center Retirement and Annuity Services (PSC-RAS) sends out three certificates and one retired lapel pin for each retiring active or reserve member. The three types of certificates are: (1) Retirement Certificate, (2) Presidential Appreciation Certificate, (3) Spouse Appreciation Certificate (if married).

PSC-RAS extracts data directly from Direct Access to aid them in the accuracy of the certificates. It's extremely important that CG-4170s are updated promptly after marriage and divorce in order to ensure correct information on spouse appreciation certificates. If a member has recently been married or divorced, PSC-RAS recommends that units notify them on-line at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/retform.htm> or by phone at 785-339-3412, 1-800-772-8724, ext. 3412. PSC-RAS strives to ensure certificates are accurate.

PSC-RAS does not include certificates for dependents other than the spouse. Frames and U.S. flags should be provided by your local unit. The Standard

Military Family Recognition Certificates are located at the USCG forms index at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-s/g-si/g-sII/forms/formindx.htm>. The certificate of appreciation (for children) is Form Number CG-5673.

Please pass this information and everything you've learned in this issue along to your outlying units. Thank you and please remember to be Semper Paratus for your retirement.

If questions do arise, please contact the Personnel Service Center (RAS) team at:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
U.S. Coast Guard
Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591
(785) 339-3412; 1-800-772-8724, ext 3412
Fax: (785) 339-3770
E-mail: psc-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil
Web: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/

TRAINING CENTER SERIES

SPECIAL MISSIONS TRAINING CENTER CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.

STORY BY PA1 ALICE SENNOTT, SMTC

Ed's note: We continue with our series on Coast Guard training centers.

Previous issues have taken us to Cape May and Petaluma. This month, we head to Camp Lejeune, N.C. for a look at the Special Missions Training Center.

GOALS AND SCHOOLS

Special Missions Training Center's goal is to provide relevant and credible training programs and products supporting the special missions requirements of the Coast Guard, Navy, and Marine Corps. Training offered at SMTC includes Port Security Unit, Maritime Safety and Security Team, and Cutter Boat Over-the-Horizon training, as well as Navy Crew-Served Weapons and Navy level II coxswain training. Additionally, SMTC provides mobile training teams, command assessment for readiness, deployable training teams for units requesting assistance, and weapons testing and evaluation.

A PART OF HISTORY

The Special Missions Training Center, originally known as the Port Security Training Detachment out of Camp Perry, Ohio, moved to Camp Lejeune in 1998. At that time there were 12 active duty and 25 reserve personnel. The PSU TRADET was tasked with improving the mission effectiveness, unit readiness and providing pre-deployment, deployment and redeployment support for the U. S. Coast Guard port security units.

By the summer of 2001, the PSU TRADET had expanded to include the Non-lethal Weapons Center of Excellence and the Fast Boat Center of Excellence. The unit took on the additional responsibilities of research and development and tactical deployment of the Coast Guard's non-lethal weapons capabilities, as well as conducting training for the Coast Guard cutter small boat

over-the-horizon tactics designed to improve capabilities in counter narcotics operations.

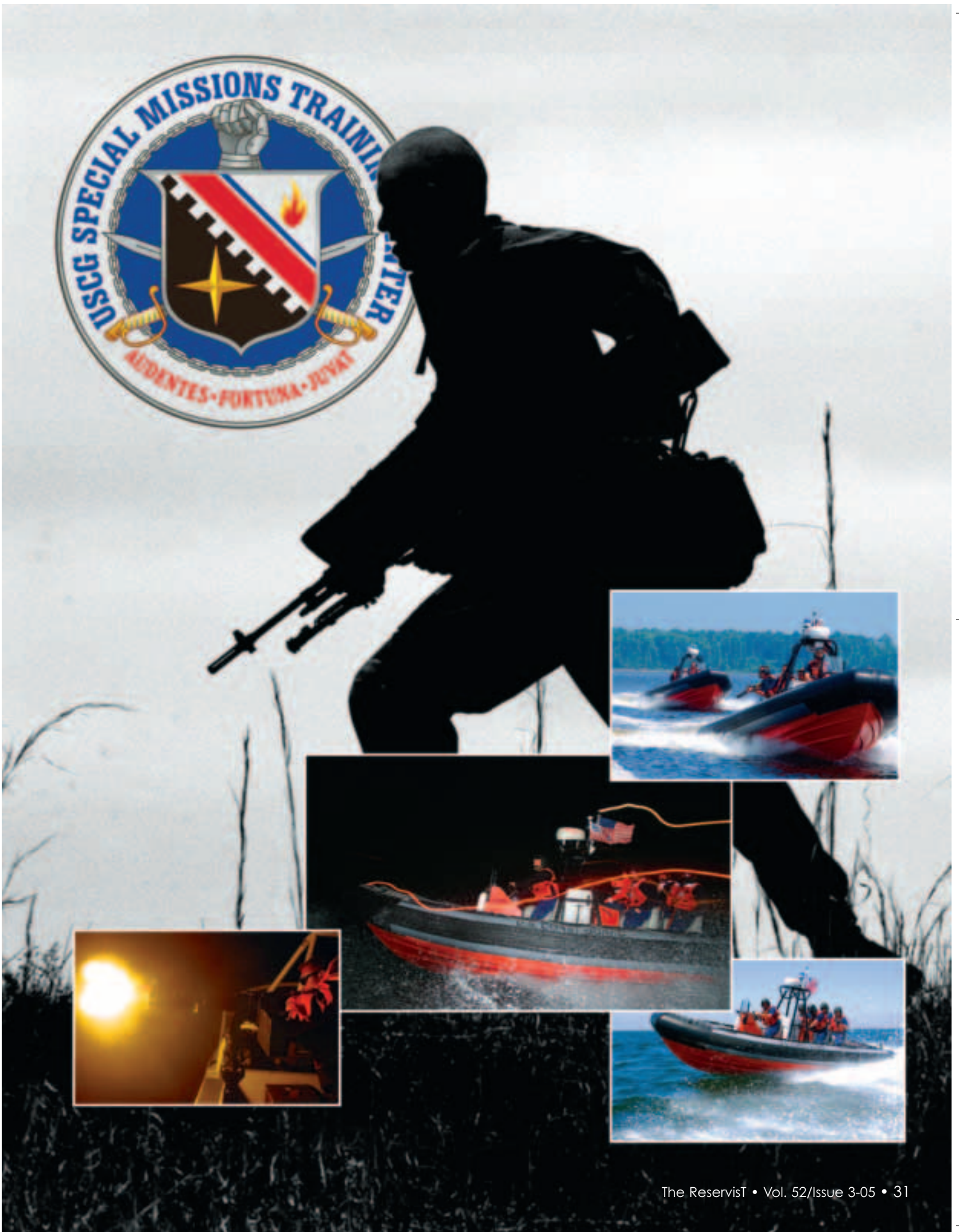
After Sept. 11, 2001, the PSU TRADET began training the newly created Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Teams. These teams are designed to meet Homeland Security needs at our nation's ports. The unit grew and evolved in order to accommodate the broadened responsibilities and growing inter-agency and international training requests. In August 2002, the name of the unit changed to the Coast Guard Special Missions Training Center to better incorporate the multi-faceted capabilities of the unit. The SMTC was commissioned as a Headquarters unit July 29, 2003.

Currently, there are over 90 active personnel, comprised of officers, enlisted, and civilians, as well as 25 reserve members assigned to SMTC. A small contingent of Navy and Marine Corps personnel are also assigned to the training center.

WHAT'S NEW AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Camp Lejeune recently broke ground for a new Joint Maritime training complex that will include a headquarters facility, academic facility, armory, vehicle/boat maintenance and supply facility, and covered boat storage. Additionally, there will be an indoor training pool constructed in the Courthouse Bay area for use by SMTC members and students. This spring, SMTC will conduct training to stand up two new PSUs — 301 from Cape Cod, Mass. and 312 from San Francisco. The weapons and fast boat division will be conducting joint testing on the Area Denial System with the Air Force and Navy. They will also be testing the X-26 TASER for possible Coast Guard use.









Lighthouse Maintenance Team “Shines” at Brandywine Shoal Light

CAPE MAY, N.J. — During 2004, the Lighthouse Maintenance Team based at Cape May replaced the corroded steel “I” beams supporting the catwalk with treated 6-by-12s at Brandywine Shoal Light in Delaware Bay, N.J.

“It was probably the hardest job I’ve done in the 10 years I’ve supervised the team,” said DCCM Jeff Miller. “There are always engineers getting dirty, doing the unglamorous repairs that support the rest of the Coast Guard.”

Team members included: DCCM Jeff Miller, MK1 Art Smith, MK1 Roger Arnold, DC1 Ed Fitzpatrick, DC2 Brian Middleton, BM3 Brian Johnson, BM3 Cliff Kovack and SN Mike Mahon.

This reinforced concrete lighthouse is built on a cast-iron caisson in the middle of Delaware Bay warning ships of the shoal on which it sits. This present structure, built in 1914, replaced two previous lighthouses built here in 1828 and 1848. It remains an important aid to navigation and was the last lighthouse in the Delaware Bay to have a keeper on board. It was automated in 1974.

Sitting only 45-feet high, the tower boasted a Third Order Fresnel Lens until it was converted to solar power. Under management of the USCG, Brandywine Shoal Light is not open to the public, but its beauty and importance is still appreciated by lighthouse enthusiasts.

—Story and photos by
DCCM Jeff Miller, USCGR



BULLETIN BOARD

In Brief

• **SAIL ABOARD CGC EAGLE IN 2005** — The CGC Eagle will sail on its annual cadet training cruise from May 9 to Sept. 9, 2005. Eagle's primary mission



during this deployment is to train future Coast Guard officers at sea. Volunteers are needed in the following ratings to augment the ship's permanent crew: BM, DC, FS, HS, IT, MK, PA. Additionally, one CPO is needed

to serve as Master At Arms. Active duty or reserve personnel (male or female) may apply for all or any portions of this deployment. However, preference is given to those qualified personnel who volunteer for longer periods. To sail on America's Tall Ship is a memorable experience and an opportunity to help shape and train the future leaders of our Coast Guard. Interested PACAREA personnel should contact YN1 Annable at 510-437-3517; interested LANTAREA personnel should contact CWO Hargrove at 757-628-4496. An alternate application method is to access the following CG Web site and submit a TDY application form; be sure to include CGC Eagle in the "Unit Applying for" block and be sure to include the endorsement of your Commanding Officer: <http://webapps.mlca.uscg.mil/pdiv/forceops/volunteers/default.cfm>

• **TAX SEASON DUPLICATE W-2** — Tax season is upon us again, so here's a quick reminder from the Personnel Service Center (PSC). The address (Block 22) on your Leave and Earnings Statement is where your W-2 was mailed. If incorrect, you may request a duplicate 2004 W-2. Questions can be directed to PSC's help line at 1-866-PSC-USCG (772-8724).

• **SELECTED RESERVE DIRECT COMMISSION (SRDC)** — Applications were due at Coast Guard Recruiting Command, April 1, 2005 (selection board convenes May 2, 2005), see ALCGRECRUITING 010/04 for more info. Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination (ROCI) courses convene May 9, 2005, and Aug. 13, 2005. For more info, see ALCGRECRUITING 010/04 (R 201424Z AUG 04).

• **REGISTER YOUR EMPLOYER, NOMINATE FOR AWARD** — Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) encourages reservists to register their employer in a national database, hosted by the Defense Management Data Center (DMDC).



Registering your employer will provide Reserve Force planners with valuable input that may help reduce the impact of callups on employers,

and makes it possible for your command to send information to your employer in support of your military service. Reservists can also nominate their employers for various ESGR awards, including the Patriot Award. For more info on both programs, contact ESGR at 1-800-336-4590 or see their Web site: www.esgr.org (under "Military Members," then "Programs").

• **TRACEN YORKTOWN HISTORICAL DISPLAY** — Training Center Yorktown is looking for historical rating memorabilia from "A" schools for a display case in Lincoln Hall. PS "A" school memorabilia is specifically requested, but any "A" school material/memorabilia from Yorktown would be appreciated. Please contact CWO4 Don Allen, School Chief, Port Security

Specialist School, USCG TRACEN Yorktown (t-mpo), Hamilton Hall, Room #210, Yorktown, VA 23690-5000; 757-856-2541; E-mail: dallen@tcyorktown.uscg.mil

• **PSC CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY** — If you recently contacted the Personnel Service Center Customer Care Branch in Topeka, they would like you to fill out a short Customer Service Survey. The information you provide will be used for process improvement and to help identify training needs so they may serve you more accurately and efficiently in the future. To access the survey, please log on to (intranet only) <http://cgweb.psc.uscg.mil/ccbsurvey>

• **SUMMERSTOCK 2005** — It's time to get ready for summer!

Summerstock is an excellent opportunity for fully qualified boat crew members to work at Coast Guard stations on the Great Lakes. It's also ideal for students and teachers seeking full-time summer employment.

Summerstock point of contact is YN1 Patricia Feeney, D9(osr) at 216-902-6116; Fax: 216-902-6121; E-mail: pfeeney@d9.uscg.mil Also check the Summerstock intranet site (accessible from CG SWS only): <http://cgweb.lant.uscg.mil/d9/o/osr/summerstock.htm>



• **AWARDS DEADLINES** — CAPT Edward R. Williams Award deadline is 1 May 2005. For info, see ALCOAST 159/05 or contact ENS Tom Grose, tgrose@comdt.uscg.mil

• **ACTIVE TO RESERVE TRANSITION TEAM (RELAD TEAM)** —

Summer RELAD season is right around the corner! If you know of an active duty member who is considering getting out of the Coast Guard or has just recently separated from active duty, please consider suggesting that he or she call the RELAD Team. The team can answer questions about Reserve Program benefits and entitlements, describe reserve obligations and responsibilities, and assist with the SELRES assignment process. Contacts are: YNCS Jan Crenshaw, 202-267-6811, jcrenshaw@comdt.uscg.mil; YN1 Bobby Hansen, 202-267-1015, bhansen@comdt.uscg.mil or BM1 Paul Simpson, 202-267-0569, psimpson@comdt.uscg.mil

• **PS CORRESPONDENCE COURSES** — The new port security specialist (PS) correspondence courses for PS1, PS2, PS3 are available from the Coast Guard Institute. Course numbers are: PS1, 0168 Edition 1; PS2, 0268 Edition 1; PS3, 0368 Edition 1. Reservists planning to take the October 2005 Reserve Servicewide Exam will be required to complete the appropriate courses by June 30, 2005. Check with your Educational Services Officer to order. CG Institute Web site: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/index.html>

• **WEEKEND ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVISTS AT PSC** —

Reservists at PSC are now "answering the call" one weekend a month to assist and answer questions from reservists nationwide! The weekend schedule for FY 2005 is as follows: May 21-22, June 11-12, July 16-17, Aug. 20-21, Sept. 17-18. Contact PSC at 1-866-772-8724 or 785-339-2200; E-mail: psccustomercare@hrsic.uscg.mil; Web: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/

Upcoming Events

THROUGHOUT 2005...

• **WORLD WAR II 60TH ANNIVERSARY** — Throughout 2005, the World War II Commemorative Committee will be running events nationwide to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the final year of the war (1945). To view events, check the Web site: www.60wwii.mil and/or contact LCDR Jack Dunphy, DoD WWII Commemoration Committee, RPN, Suite 5413, 1777 N. Kent St., Arlington, VA 22209, 703-588-8598; jack.dunphy@hqda.army.mil

APRIL 2005

• **COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE** — The 2005 campaign kicks off April 1 and runs through April 30. Reservists will be contacted during the campaign. However, contributions can be made at any time. See article in this issue and/or call 1-800-881-2462; Web: www.cgmahq.org

MAY 2005

• **COAST GUARD INNOVATION EXPO** — May 3-5, Santa Clara, Calif. For info on Web: www.ndia.org (under "Meetings and Event") or contact CDR Jay Hawthorne, 202-267-2771, jhawthorne@comdt.uscg.mil

• **CWO4 MCLAUGHLIN'S RETIREMENT** — Come celebrate CWO4 Tom McLaughlin's 37.5 years of service in the USCG/USCGR, Saturday, May 7, 11 a.m., Atlantic Strike Team, Fort Dix, N.J. For info, contact LT Shawn McGlinchey, 1-800-523-6344, ext. 8079 or e-mail CWO4 McLaughlin at: tmclaughlin1231@hotmail.com

• **NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK** — May 21-27. For info, contact Erika Clemons, Campaign Coordinator, National Safe Boating Council, P.O. Box 509, Bristow, VA 20136, 703-361-4294; FAX: 703-361-5294; E-mail: Campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org Web: www.safeboatingcouncil.org

JUNE 2005

• **COAST GUARD INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT** — June 1-4, Barton Creek Resort, Austin, Texas. Deadline is Feb. 25, 2005. All levels of golfers welcomed! Bring a friend and make it a vacation. See COMDTNOTE 1710 for details or contact Dr. Mike Parnarouskis,

Reunions

APRIL 2005

• **USCG PONCE TRAINING CENTER GET-TOGETHER** — Coast Guard personnel stationed in St. Augustine, Fla. during WWII, 16th reunion at Alhambra Inn, April 19-21, 2005. Call 1-800-223-4153 for reservations (\$59 double occupancy).

• **OWENSBORO UNIT REUNION 2005** — Saturday, April 23, 1 p.m. Central time, at the Oakridge Park Campgrounds, one-half mile west of Rockport, Ind. From I-64 or 164 go east toward Rockport on Highway 66, turn left, or north on Silverdale Road. For more info, contact Bill Symon, (812) 649-2721 or (812) 686-2082, Les Allen, Cell, (502) 552-0687, Don Kuster, (812) 327-4749, or Gene Radin, (859) 885-1236 cell (859) 552-7606, e-mail: gpradin@juno.com

MAY 2005

• **CGC CAMPBELL ASSOC. W-32 & W-909** — 20th annual reunion, May 15-19, 2005, at Savannah Marriott Riverfront, Ga. Contact Gordon Bell, President, 723 Spring Lane, Lansdale, PA 19446; Phone: 215-393-6195; E-mail: CaptBell@comcast.net or Jim Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer, 40 Lisa Lane, Uncasville, CT 06382; Phone: 860-848-1160; jkelly3@earthlink.net. See Web site for details and reservations: www.campbellw32w909.org

• **USCG 255 SAILORS REUNION IV** — For all thirteen 255-foot Coast Guard class cutters, May 15-18, Las Vegas, Nev. at Plaza Hotel/Casino. Contact: RMC Doak Walker, USCG(Ret.), Reunion Committee Chairman, P.O. Box 33523, Juneau, AK 99803; (907) 789-2579; FAX: (907) 789-2780; doak17@gci.net (Posted 24 JAN 05)

703-368-7049, mikep1121@comcast.net; Mr. Tom Taylor, 202-267-2991, ttaylor@comdt.uscg.mil; or LCDR Casey White, 202-267-6065, cjwhite@comdt.uscg.mil. Barton Creek Resort Web site: www.bartoncreek.com

• **NATIONAL FLAG DAY CELEBRATION** — Sunday, June 12, Waubeka, Wis. (30 miles north of Milwaukee). Come celebrate at the birthplace of Flag Day. Program, 12:30 p.m.; parade 1:30 p.m.; Program at Stone Hill School, 3 p.m.; Family day to follow including fireworks. Web: www.nationalflagday.com

• **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY** — The 65th birthday of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is Wednesday, June 23. Auxiliary Web site: www.cgaux.org

JULY 2005

• **ROA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — July 27-30, New York City, Times Square, Marriott Marquis. Contact Reserve Officers Association, 1 Constitution Ave. N.E., Washington, DC 20002; 202-479-2200; Web: www.roa.org

• **COAST GUARD FESTIVAL** — July 29-Aug. 7, Grand Haven, Mich. For info, contact: U.S. Coast Guard Festival, 113 N. Second St., Grand Haven, MI 49417; Phone: 1-888-207-2434; Web: www.ghcgfest.org

AUGUST 2005

• **COAST GUARD DAY 2005** — Is Thursday, Aug. 4! What is your unit planning to commemorate the Coast Guard's 215th birthday?

SEPTEMBER 2005

• **CPOA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — 37th annual, Sept. 12-15, St. Louis, Mo. Contact CPO Association, 5520-G Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151-4009; 703-941-0395; cgcpoa@aol.com Web: www.uscgcpoa.org

OCTOBER 2005

• **RESERVE SERVICEWIDE EXAM** — Tentatively slated for Saturday, Oct. 15. Study hard and make your shipmates proud! Deadline for paperwork (EOCTs, MRNs, etc.) is June 30.

JUNE 2005

• **CGC EASTWIND (WAGB 279)** — June 10-12, 2005, Portland, Maine. Contact: Lee Grant, 603-447-6040; junelee.1@juno.com or Al Brier, 508-945-3729.

• **COAST GUARD SPECIAL AGENTS** — Former Coast Guard Intelligence/Investigations Special Agents seeking to have first-ever reunion of special agents, intelligence, District/Area Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) personnel. Active duty and Reserve CGIS special agents, intelligence and OLE personnel all invited. Tentatively set for May 2005 in Branson, Mo. Interested Coast Guard personnel should contact Mr. Bruce Sheils (retired CGI special agent) at bruahm@webtv.net

SEPTEMBER 2005

• **NORTH COAST NEW YORK COAST GUARD ASSOCIATION** — Sept. 23-25, Sackets Harbor, N.Y. Seeking Coasties who served aboard CGC's Cherry, Maple, Ojibwa, White Lupine, Buckthorn, Arundel, Point Steele, Wire and CG's 83359, 65024-D (Chockberry), 55030, 45305, 49414, 45308, or 49404, while homeported in upper New York, Burlington, Vt. or Saugerties, N.Y. Also, seeking any Coastie who served at Erie, Pa. Lifeboat Station, Buffalo Base, Fort Niagara LBS, Rochester LBS, Sodus Point (AUX OP), Oswego LBS, Galloo Island LBS, Sackets Harbor (AUX OP), Cape Vincent Light Attendant Station, CG Station Alex. Bay, MSD Massena, Burlington Base, Vt. ATN Saugerties, Reserve Unit (PSU Buffalo/Syracuse, Loran Station Seneca). Also, any lighthouse, small unit or CGC in the above area. Any year, regular, reserve, auxiliary or civilian. Contact: Mr. Gordon Koscher, North Coast New York Coast Guard Association, 4712 Glenwood Drive, Mantua, OH 44255, (330)-274-2927.

BOOK REVIEW

Rescued By The U.S. Coast Guard: Great Acts of Heroism Since 1878

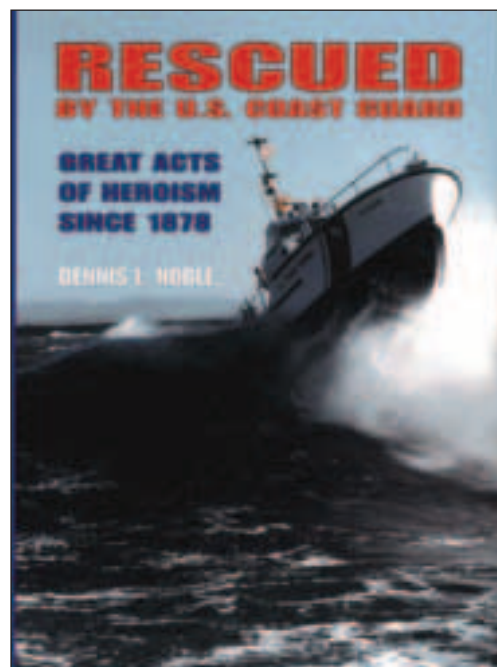
By Dennis L. Noble

Rescued By the U.S. Coast Guard: Great Acts of Heroism Since 1878, written by retired Senior Chief Dennis Noble, makes a real contribution to the history of the Coast Guard. Everyone who enjoys man-against-the-sea stories will appreciate this overview of rescues and the people who carried them out. Maritime rescue specialists and historians will be drawn to the author's description of the changes in life-saving equipment, from oar-powered boats to modern 47-foot motor lifeboats and the array of aircraft used by the Coast Guard.

Author Noble served in the Coast Guard more than 20 years, holds a Ph.D. in U.S. history from Purdue University, and is one of only five people to be awarded the Columbia River Maritime Museum's Fellow of Maritime history honorific. He has authored 12 previous books.

Rescued By the U.S. Coast Guard, published in February 2005, is 328 pages, has 15 photographs and is printed in hardback. It is available at bookstores, online or direct: www.navalinstitute.org, 1-800-233-8764, Naval Institute Press, 291 Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21402. ISBN 1-59114-625-9, \$32.95.

Neither the U.S. Coast Guard nor The Reservist endorse this book. This article is published as a service to our readers.



It is available at bookstores, online
or direct: www.navalinstitute.org,

1-800-233-8764

Naval Institute Press,
291 Wood Road,
Annapolis, MD 21402.

ISBN 1-59114-625-9,
\$32.95.

Awards



Photo courtesy LT Kelly Thorkelson

CPO Mark Rea, left, of MSO San Francisco Bay receives the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal from CAPT Gerald M. Swanson Jan. 28. Rea, who received the award for a decade of service to the Boy Scouts of America, is a reservist on Title 10 recall.

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

LCDR David R. Allen, HQ (G-WTR-1)

Meritorious Service Medal

CDR Millard F. Roberts, USTRANSCOM

Coast Guard

Commendation Medal

BMCN George E. Stanley, NSFCC
DC1 Thomas Lunderville, Group Port Angeles, Wash.

Joint Service Achievement Medal

OSC Dayne M. Venture, USTRANSCOM

Navy/Marine Corps

Achievement Medal

SK1 Robert Sean Stuckey, NCWG-1

Coast Guard Achievement Medal

LCDR Daniel V. Venne, Marine Safety Center
LT Timothy W. Decker, USCG Academy

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

CPO Mark Rea, San Francisco Bay



Photo courtesy MCPO George Stanley, USCGR

The Support Center Elizabeth City, N.C. Fire Department's fire chief and assistants received Employer Support of Guard and Reserve's (ESGR) "My Boss is a Patriot" award Dec. 6. Left to right: MSTC James Stanley, USCGR; Tech. Sgt. Michael Wenthe, USAFR; Assistant Fire Chief John Delano, Fire Chief Bob Willis, Assistant Chief Frank Nordstrom, BMCM George Stanley, USCGR; and MK3 John Ratcliffe, USCGR. ESGR has also cited these individuals for the "Up and Beyond Award" which they received at a banquet Feb. 5.

Advancements

Effective Feb. 1, 2005

From Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement (ERAA) No. 02/05, ALCGPERSCOM 006/05 (R 191702Z JAN 05)

BOATSWAIN'S MATE (BM)

BM3 C BRENNAN

HEALTH SERVICES TECHNICIAN (HS)

HSC P JOYCE

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKC A BONDI

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST)

MSTCM K FONG

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PSC D GILMER
PSC K QUIGLEY
PSC B MELEKIAN
PS1 M FLEMING
PS1 A CANALES
PS1 A CALDERON
PS1 G ZIEMINSK
PS1 R AVERY
PS1 M STROUD

STOREKEEPER (SK)

SKC D CAPOZZOL
SK3 A BURRS

Effective March 1, 2005

From Enlisted Reserve Advancement Announcement (ERAA) No. 03/05, ALCGPERSCOM 022/05 (R 181338Z FEB 05)

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (FS)

FS3 W YOUNG

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKCS S PAINE
MKCS M MOORE
MKC L TRAHAN

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PS1 J GATTO
PS1 K COPELAND
PS1 R GOLD
PS1 M MELANCON
PS1 L NGUYEN

STOREKEEPER (SK)

SKC G TAYLOR

Questions should be directed to YNC Jeff Pilkington, jpilkington@hrsic.uscg.mil or 785-339-3410.



Photo courtesy CDR Jack Laufer

MK2 Eric Gernaat, center, gets pinned with second class crow's by CDR Jack Laufer, left, and MKC Guy Sundvik, right, Nov. 1, 2004 at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. All three are part of the PACAREA PSU Detachment assigned to the Joint Task Force Guantanamo.



Photo courtesy CPO Clinton Postlethwaite, USCGR

Congratulating Clint Postlethwaite, right, at his Sept. 1, 2004 E-7 pinning ceremony was CAPT Danny Ellis, left, of MSO Puget Sound in Seattle, Wash.

Retirements

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

DECEMBER 2004

CWO4 Thomas P. McLaughlin, D5

FEBRUARY 2005

CDR William E. Lane, HQ
LT Robert K. Powell, D13
PSCM Bruce L. Meservey, D1
BMCS John L. Metz, D13
PSCS Thomas P. Sullivan, D13
MKC Thomas H. Roberson, D7
OSC Dennis J. Zajack, D11
BM1 Larry A. Keeler, D13
EM1 Herbert C. Tomer, D5
PS1 Larry H. Wilson, D7
PS2 Warren H. Beitel, D8

MARCH 2005

CAPT Laurence A. Gruver, D11
CDR Jon H. Holbrook, D8
LCDR Barnard A. Bruce, D13
LT Karl S. Brooks, D7
CWO4 John F. Millett, D1
CWO2 Robert L. Hill, D8
FSC Donald E. Mason, CGPC
MKC Dennis L. Brown, D13
MSTC James R. Cash, D1
SKC Robert J. Orr, MLCLANT
DC1 Donald R. Champion, D11
ET1 Larry V. Ruegger, D7
IV1 David L. Peelo, D11
PS1 Rudolph E. Blakesley, D1
YN1 Sheila B. Carpenter, D1
YN1 Arno W. Dietze, Jr., D5
BM2 Robert N. Sandberg, D1
PS2 Robert I. Newman, D5
PS3 John S. Mendolia, D1

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

MARCH 2003

MK2 Joel M. Simons, MLCLANT

JANUARY 2005

LCDR James L. Green, PACAREA

FEBRUARY 2005

CWO4 Monte L. Simpson, PACAREA
MKCS David N. Brown, Gulf Strike Team
YNCS Stewart T. Shoulta, MLCLANT
ETC Hugo V. Escudero, PACAREA
AET1 Elwyn B. Dudley, D7
BM1 Allen M. Pederson, CGPC
DC1 Ronald L. Ross, D11
MST1 George R. Spadie, D8
SK1 Susanna J. Wiedmann, ELC
YN1 Linda C. Peters, D7
BM2 Donald J. Spano, D5

MARCH 2005

CWO4 William L. Broadaway, CGPC
BMC John F. Dufrat, LANTAREA
BMC William E. Price, MLCLANT
IVC William F. New, Jr.
PSC William D. Frankel, D7
PSC Alfred J. Lukowski, D1
MK1 Clarence J. Wardle, D11
OS1 Richard L. Hawken, D13
YN1 Geroe J. Hrenko, CGPC
BM2 Donald G. Corey, D1
BM2 Joel T. Musick, CGPC
DC2 Nancy E. Roby, CGPC
MST2 Patrick A. Plante, D1

Source: Lynn Couch, Personnel Service Center (RAS)



Photo by LT Kent Sieg

LCDR Ronald LaBrec, Commander, Group Eastern Shore, Md., left, presents CWO4 Charles R. Chase a retirement plaque during a September ceremony held in appreciation of his 40 years of service to the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve. MKCS James H. Ayres was also honored during the same ceremony for his 34 years of service.

Taps

• **CAPT George W. Girdler, USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 26, 2005, in Avon Park, Fla.

• **CDR Victor L. Colomb, Jr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Dec. 31, 2004, in LaCombe, La. Survived by seven children. Interment New Orleans, La.

• **BMC James E. Simerly, Sr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 7, 2005, in Diamond Springs, Calif.

• **HMC John R. Case, USCGR(Ret.)**, Dec. 22, 2004, in Palatine, Ill. Interment Elwood, Ill.

• **IVC William Pecinich, USCGR(Ret.)**, Dec. 28, 2004, in Westminster, Col.

• **MMC Karl G. Grothe, USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 16, 2005, in Clearwater, Fla. Interment Serenity Gardens, Largo, Fla.

• **PSC Preston J. Carey, Jr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 11, 2005, in Frankford, Del.

• **MK1 Charles J. Kiessling, USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 31, 2005, in Shippensburg, Pa. Survived by his spouse, Lois Kiessling. Interment Shippensburg Cemetery, Shippensburg, Pa.

• **PS1 Jesus Aguiniga, USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 2, 2005, in Houston, Texas. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam and Coast Guard Reserve at MSO Corpus Christi. Survivors include his wife, Idalia; a daughter, Cynthia Silva; a son, Jose; a brother, Chris Rodriguez; two sisters, Elizabeth Tanguma and Marie Antonio Ramon; four grandchildren. Funeral services were held Jan. 7, 2005 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church. Interment Duncan Cemetery, Corpus Christi, Texas.

• **PS1 Vincent R. Gambardella, USCGR(Ret.)**, Dec. 10, 2004 in Lakewood, N.J. Survived by his wife, Irene. Interment Farmindale, N.Y.

• **Mildred Johnson, Coast Guard SPAR (WWII)**, Jan. 2, 2005, of Hemet, Calif.

• **William R. Werner, Lighthouse Keeper (USLHS Retired)**, Jan. 29, 2005 in Kilmarnock, Va. He retired Feb. 27, 1970. Interment Deltaville, Va.

Retirement & Personal Transitions

Since this is a retirement issue, I thought I'd share a personal story related to this month's theme. I recently retired after a 28-year law enforcement career. To most of my peers, this new venture was a golden opportunity. However, I didn't see it that way at first. I always considered myself a problem solver — I was not supposed to have them. Regardless, I moved on quickly to a new career.

I guess the choice of changing careers had to be made much too quickly. Leaving the comfort zone of all those years left me unsettled and questioning my decision. And I didn't take advantage of all the resources out there. Fortunately, an old friend became a risk taker and took the time to inquire about my behavior. This one concerned individual with some viable answers brought things back into perspective.

I'm fine now, but from hindsight, maybe I should have taken my own advice and talked to someone to find out why I felt the way I did. I realize now my problem paled in comparison to those that face a great majority of our shipmates. Stress, divorce, financial issues, domestic violence, and suicide to name a few befall our members on a daily basis.

The bottom line is no one knows our shipmates better than we do. No one sees the changes that are occurring within our friends and co-workers more than we do. As you well know, our Coast Guard family

is a tight-knit group, and we would help one another in a heartbeat. Like my friend who took me aside, perhaps you can be that friend to a fellow shipmate. Take care of yourself and your shipmates. Our families, friends and our Coast Guard depend on it.

As far as resources, many of our members are just plain unfamiliar with the assistance available through the good folks at Coast Guard Work-Life. The overall objective of these specialists is to "support the well-being of active duty, reserve, civilian employees and family members."

The Coast Guard has 13 Work-Life staffs located at the Integrated Support Commands (ISCs) across the nation and the Headquarters Support Command (see list below). All programs are administered in accordance with Commandant (G-WKW) policy. Work-Life programs include: Substance Abuse, Transition Assistance, Financial Management, Suicide Prevention and Workplace Violence to name a few. The Office of Work-Life Web site is easily accessed via the Useful Sites links on the Reserve Web site (www.uscg.mil/reserve) or at www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wk/wkw/work-life_staff.htm. Take a moment and scan the information and services available. It could possibly be of great value to you or a lifesaver to a person in need out there.



Work-Life Staffs

To contact the Work-Life Staff closest to you, call 1-800-872-4957 followed by the extension listed next to the location:

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Alameda, | 252 |
| Boston, | 301 |
| Cleveland, | 309 |
| Honolulu, | 314 |
| Ketchikan, | 317 |
| Kodiak, | 563 |
| Miami, | 307 |
| New Orleans, | 308 |
| Portsmouth, | 305 |
| San Pedro, | 311 |
| Seattle, | 313 |
| St. Louis, | 302 |
| Washington, D.C., | 932 |

"The bottom line is no one knows our shipmates better than we do. No one sees the changes that are occurring within our friends and co-workers more than we do. As you well know, our Coast Guard family is a tight-knit group, and we would help one another in a heartbeat."

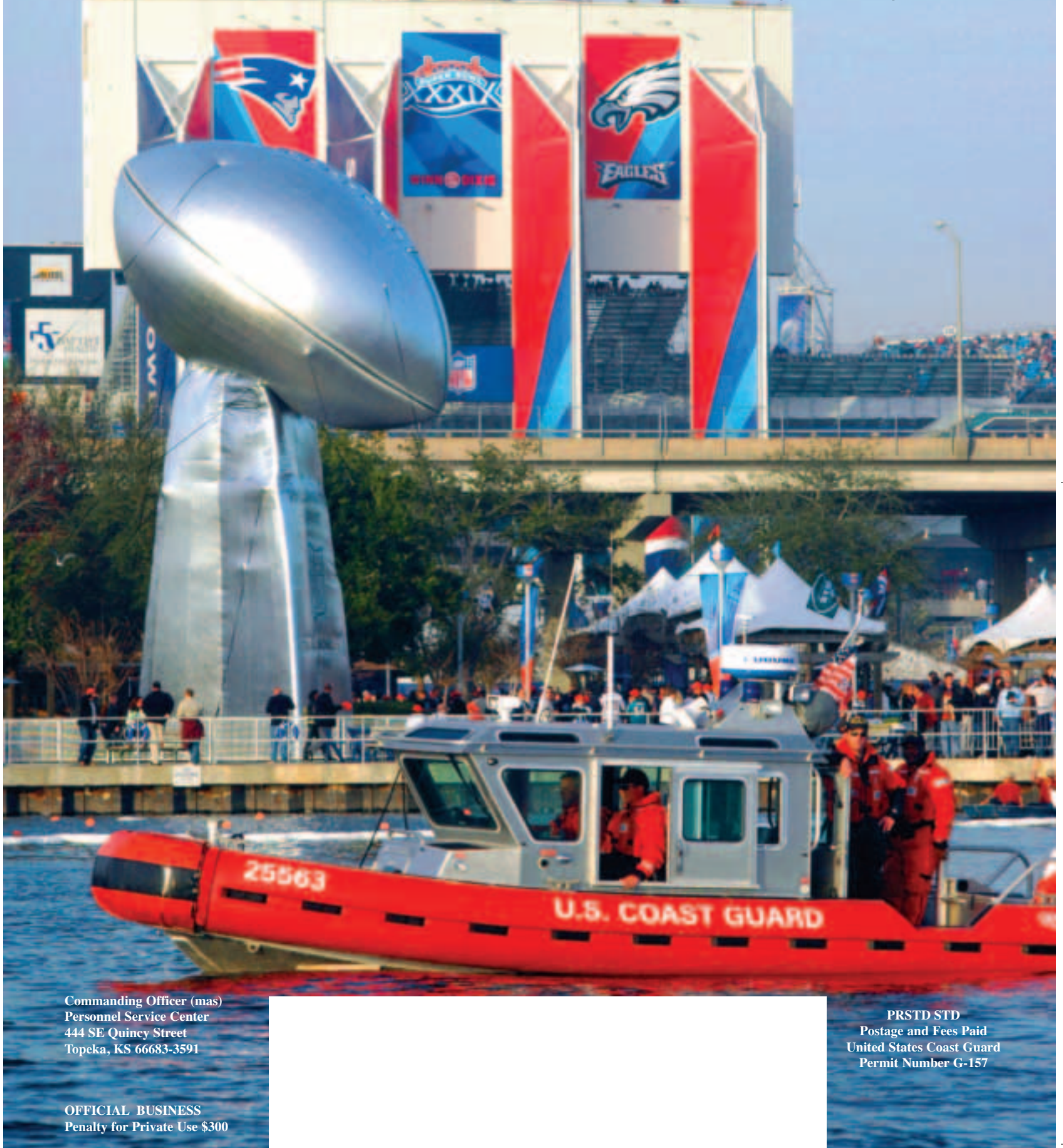


**By MCPO William J. Dikun, USCGR
Reserve Command Master Chief, D1
wdikun@d1.uscg.mil**

Super Bowl Security

A Coast Guard 25-foot small boat plies the St. John's River in Jacksonville, Fla. during the Super Bowl held there Feb. 6.

Photo by PA3 Beth Reynolds, USCGR



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Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

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